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Ceylon Bargains. — The *Ceylon Observer* recently gave a good story, supplementary to facts to which we have frequently alluded in respect to Ceylon gem bargains. A steamer with a distinguished passenger on board stopped at Galle, where she was boarded by a wily Tamby, who gradually unfolded a profound secret to the swell passenger that he had a very valuable diamond, *a stolen one*, of which he was anxious to dispose. The desire to become the possessor of such a treasure as was unfolded in secret to his eyes induced the neither scrupulous nor wise passenger to offer the Tamby all he had—viz., three thousand rupees—for it, and after this offer was supplemented by a few articles of personal property the bargain was struck. Need we say the treasure was no diamond at all, but a counterfeit made on purpose to take advantage of the foreign greenhorn's love for gems.

ENTRE NOUS
HARPOCRATES

BY THE EDITOR.

THE ROYAL WEDDING.

WHEN one sees the many hundreds of presents that have been made in connection with the above ceremony, and how large a portion of them consists of jewelry and plate, one cannot help thinking that Royal Weddings are institutions for the benefit of trade. Of course all the presents of jewelry are not expressly bought for the purpose, but most of them no doubt are. It is in many ways a pity that longer time was not given, so that special articles could have been produced, but on the other hand it is on the whole far better that it should have been as it is; as a large quantity of stock has been moved, which retailers may now feel disposed to replace. Whether any of the presents made will have any influence upon fashions in jewelry is doubtful, seeing that their nature is so extremely varied. We should have liked to have enumerated the principal of the presents, but we find they form a list which would require more space than can be spared, and we must watch the effects of the jewelry worn at the wedding for pointers to new fashions.

"MADE IN SWITZERLAND."

ELSEWHERE in this journal will be found an interesting letter from a country watchmaker who is still in doubt whether it is necessary to put the words, "made in Switzerland" upon a Swiss watch. It also appears as if the "manufacturer" (?) was willing to take advantage of the lack of knowledge of his customers, and remark sophistically that the watches were specially made for him in Switzerland and finally examined by his own men in this country. Such throwing of dust in the eyes of customers may be the lines upon which some retailers of questionable honesty have succeeded in deceiving the public, but for a "manufacturer" to attempt such an outrage on the common sense of a respectable tradesman is a thing one would hardly expect. At the same time we must admit that we are frequently pained by the lack of intelligent interest taken by some members of the trade in the laws by which their daily transactions are governed. So far as one can see, here is a firm advertising foreign watches in such a manner as not only to deceive the public but so as to make even a watchmaker believe them to be of English origin. If this is not a case for a Protection Society to take up, we fail to see the *raison d'être* of that association; or, if it is its present organisation which precludes action, the sooner a thoroughly representative organisation which will watch the interests of the trade and fight for them is called into existence the better it will be, not only for the trade, but for the morality of commerce.

"VOT'S THE VEIGHT?"

WHEN an article is but one step removed from the melting pot, it is not surprising to hear the above pertinent question asked by dealers whose appreciation of a bargain is greater than their recognition of *artistic* production. But when a magnificent presentation is to be made which will be associated with the greatest hero of the hour, and carried down to posterity as a specimen of the artistic productions of the age, it is absolutely monstrous to have to quote for it at per ounce. It is this objectionable principle which has debased many articles which should have been the finest specimens of the art of the silversmith, especially during the last quarter of a century. We have had considerable experience connected with these large presentation pieces, and are therefore able to speak with some authority upon the subject. We well remember one very important casket which was to be selected by a committee at the Guildhall, and would it be believed that upon that committee was a gentleman who flourished under Lombardian heraldry, who, from his close connection with the fraternity which have for ever uppermost the above question, began to put the jeweler through his facings by asking "What is the weight of gold?" "How much per ounce fashion do you reckon it?" Need we say that the committee decided on one in which there was more gold and less make, and the artistic conception which would have been a credit to the age was henceforth consigned to limbo?

Recently the question of the artistic productions of the work of the silversmith of the present day has again been the subject of adverse criticism in the public papers, and Mr. Howard Barnard, of the old Angel-street firm, has stepped forward as its defender. When we remember how many of the finest productions of the trade, especially in the larger "cups," have been manufactured by this firm, we can appreciate the value of Mr. Barnard's experience. He remarks, amongst other things, "Were we carpenters, plumbers, or gasfitters we should be assured of a profit upon the material employed, but because we are silversmiths we are forsooth met with the cry 'How much per ounce?' I most emphatically repeat it is the public's own fault. You (*Daily News*) talk glibly of Vechte, Armstead, and Morel—and you might have mentioned Cellini—but if you will only free us of this wretched parrot cry 'per ounce! per ounce!' we will produce artistic work of the highest South Kensington standard. Our artists are all educated in those very art schools you so rightly praise, but, unfortunately, when employed by us, the pressure of the 'per ounce' comes in and takes the heart out of the most promising of them."

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A REFERENCE.

WE recently reported the case, which was tried in the Birmingham County Court, in which Mr. Hill, of Coventry, sued Messrs. Poppleton, of Birmingham, for the amount of goods supplied to a firm trading as the Colonial Trading Company, Leadenhall-street, by the former upon the references of stability given by the latter, the reference, however, being the result of a mistake made by the defendants' agent The County Court Judge ruled Messrs. Poppleton liable. Against this there has been an appeal, which was brought before the Queen's Bench Division on the 7th ult. The judges concurred that the information was not supplied to the plaintiff about the firm concerning which he desired inquiries to be made, and which he had sufficiently and satisfactorily described in his application to the defendants; the information given concerned another company. The defendants were therefore liable to the plaintiff for the loss he had sustained in supplying the goods, and the County Court Judge was right in so finding. They therefore dismissed the case with costs, and we cannot help thinking it is a good thing for the defendants and all those who professionally give references that such a verdict is obtainable, otherwise we may ask, of what good are references at all? It was doubtless the sense of innocence on the part of Messrs. Poppleton that prompted them to allow the case to enter into court; the case was one of simple responsibility for the action of an agent, the plaintiff being very particular all through the case to emphasise the fact that individually Messrs. Poppleton had been neither negligent nor careless, but had been made the victims of their agent, for whom they were naturally and legally responsible.

MARKETS.

Board of Trade returns for May.

EXPORTS.—Plated and gilt wares May, 1893, £24,886; May, 1892, £21,439.

IMPORTS.—Watches and parts thereof May, 1893, £67,795; May, 1892, £71,378. Clocks and parts thereof May, 1893, £34,754; May, 1892, £33,349.

Diamonds.

A BY no means satisfactory state of things exists in the diamond market. Prices asked are higher and business in general is no better. No doubt we have had several things to make large draws upon the diamond market, which have enabled the De Beers to run up prices—the Chicago Exhibition, speculations consequent upon increased wealth, and a large quantity of paper trade upon the anticipation of business. We also hear that an immense approbation trade has been done for the Chicago market, so that a great deal of stock may again get returned upon the market. Notwithstanding the assurance of the De Beers that they will not lower prices, there are many well-informed members of the trade who feel certain, especially after the recent accounts of stagnation which has overtaken the American trade, that prices must fall, and that very soon. Great dissatisfaction has long existed in Amsterdam and Antwerp at the high price maintained by rough material, and as this passes through the London market, the London merchants have always been regarded in the light of hard task-masters. A powerful syndicate, with a large capital behind it, is now trying to turn the market channels by sending the diamonds direct from the Cape to the land of dykes. It may perhaps be well for the English trade to note this.

Silver.

A CRISIS, or something very nearly approaching it, has been reached in the silver market. Although the precious white metal opened at 37⅞d., and went on steadily increasing on the whole till 38½d. was reached; from the 18th a downward tendency set in, and by the 23rd the record price of 37½d. was touched. After this it became known that the Government intend to make an artificial rise in the rupee to 16d., and an unparalleled commotion was made all over the world. What the outcome of it all will be

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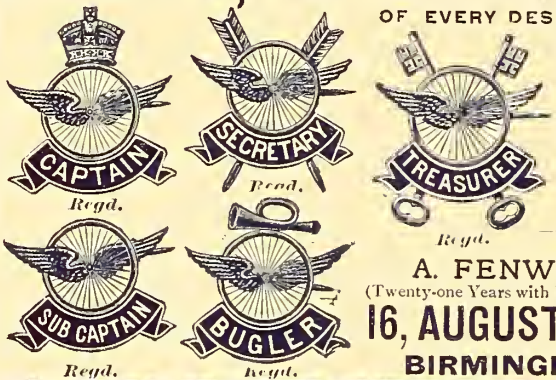

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cannot yet be predicted. On going to press a still greater fall had occurred, and silver was quoted at $33\frac{1}{2}$d. !

Tin.

The price of tin during the month has greatly improved. Commencing at £85 15s., it increased pretty regularly up to the latter end of the month, when it reached £89 10s.; it then began to recede.

Copper.

The red metal has varied somewhat parallel with tin, opening at a little over £43, rising up to over £45, then again receding.

Spelter.

Spelter has been very steady, varying only from £17 5s. to £17 17s. 6d.

Mercury.

Mercury has been practically stationary at £6 17s. 6d.

The Kew Report.

Unfortunately, at the last minute the sub-Editor, in the absence through illness of the Editor, found himself in possession of far more matter than could be got into our special issue, despite its unprecedentedly large size ; and in leaving out some things and cutting down others several things had to suffer. Amongst these was the above report. One of the paragraphs which suffered pointed out the merits of the watch that beat the previous records ; the reading of this paragraph, however, showed that something had been left out ; another explained the relation of complicated watches to the marks they gained, which was rather unfortunate, as the question is not—as our readers are, of course, aware—one of mere numbers, but complications rate first, so that the watch which registers the highest numbers does not necessarily stand at the top of the list, but the one with the greatest complications and marks. This brings the minute chronograph, minute repeater, and perpetual calendar with moon's phases of Messrs. S. Smith and Son to the top of the list ; the minute and split seconds chronograph and minute repeater of Hector Golay, second, and so on.

The account of the report of the Astronomer Royal of the Royal Observatory of Greenwich is held over till next month.

Transatlantic Jottings.—Owing to the space absorbed by the description of the trade exhibits at the World's Fair, we have been unable to publish our usual monthly Transatlantic Jottings. In looking over them we are struck by the great complaint of the bad state of the trade in America. We also notice in the American exchanges all sorts of headings to articles such as "The cause of the great depression." This is not quite what some would expect in a country so blessed with Protection. After all, Free Trade countries do not appear to be the only ones that have cause for complaint !

Return of Mr. T. P. Hewitt from Switzerland.—Mr. T. P. Hewitt, the well-known managing director of the Lancashire Watch Factory, who has been spending a fortnight in Switzerland, has again returned home to his duties. Mr. Hewitt has obtained information which will be of considerable value when the new department for case-making is opened at the Prescot factory. Mr. George Hewitt, director of the Technical Classes at Prescot, remains in Switzerland inquiring into the manner in which horological classes are conducted under the auspices of technical schools.

A Perpetual Watch.—The construction of this watch is based on a movable lever balancing on its own axis and raised by a flexible spring which puts it in motion with the slightest movement when carried. By means of a small train of wheels the winding wratchet is sufficiently connected to keep the mainspring constantly wound up, and in the event of not being worn it can be wound in the ordinary way. Forty minutes' walking is sufficient to keep it going thirty-six hours. It is a "novelty" which every watchmaker should keep in stock, and can be had of all wholesale houses or direct from the sole licensees for Great Britain and Colonies, Messrs. Ad. Ries and Co.

New Turret Clock.—There is in course of construction at Ashton-under-Lyne a new Episcopalian church, for which it is proposed to have an illuminated recorder of the hours, when the edifice is complete. As yet, we believe, nothing has been done in the matter, but it will be a line for someone.

NOTES ABOUT TOWN

(By Our London Correspondent.)

Chrysoprase is still more the rage than ever, and it will shortly acquire one of those characteristics which appear to constitute a gem—viz., rarity. Of course the greater part of the stuff sold under the name is not chrysoprase, although there is a large quantity of the true Silesian gem in the hands of the trade. It would be impossible to describe the many patterns in which this stone is now made up, although at one time there was an appalling sameness in them. People appear to be only just beginning to realise how happily this stone harmonises with many gems. One of the prettiest little brooches in which chrysoprase is combined with other stones is a cherub in moonstones and diamonds, rising from behind a Cupid's dart (also in diamonds) ; from end to end of the latter falls a festoon of collet-set diamonds supporting a chrysoprase heart. There is nothing very expensive about it, and yet it is a brooch a Princess might wear.

Some of the prettiest and most happy combinations that have appeared lately are delicate art shades of brocade in terra-cotta, very light blues, and sage or bronze-green, underlying pierced work of silver, or gilt. These articles are for the boudoir, toilet table, and stationery desk, I believe they are, for the most part, if not wholly, the productions of Messrs, King and Son, Charterhouse-street.

I have recently noticed about town some charming little dishes of quaint old shapes, something like a low pipkin, with handles, used to hand round the delicious confections after dinner that are now so profusely produced and so much eaten.

A new use has been called into existence for the old gold watch cases—the older the better—especially if they happen to be repoussée chased. The glass is removed and replaced by a suitable design of gold chased work, or gold set in gems, the fly spring is fixed to the lid—if not there already—and the gold watch case becomes a gold bonbonnier.

Some of the most effective and pretty combinations that have recently appeared are the Art wrought metal productions. These mixtures of brass and copper result in some of the most taking and artistic articles that have been put on the market for a long time. Messrs. Gay, Lamaille and Co., Charterhouse-street, are showing some handsome little clocks of this description. They are fitted with a one-day movement, and are eminently suited for the boudoir.

I ought not to omit reference to the beautiful mosaic gold jewelry that for some time has commanded the admiration of the artistic, and an extensive sale. This appears to be one of the few arts brought out by one firm, and practically retained by them; for, although several others have attempted to copy it, they thus far have achieved no great success. There are now some dozens of patterns in this style which are commanding a sale. The beautiful effects of the different "finishes" and the tints of the various hues of gold and platinum, coupled with the excellence of finish of these goods, have all contributed to obtain for them their popularity. They usually take the form of knots, bows, or ribbon patterns. A modification of this art has also lately been turned to the production of birds and animals which are now *en tout rage*.

I have seen recently some very handsome strong and useful designs in golf brooches. At one time the impedimenta of golf were considered too "lanky" to lend themselves nicely to pretty design, but now I see several patterns where three or more sticks of different patterns are combined with other paraphernalia of the game to form nice designs. In one the bag is of red gold with the heads of the sticks peeping out in platinum, and the hafts in colored gold, making a very effective and at the same time a useful brooch.

The pencil bracelet, brought out some years ago by an Old Bond-street house, has been resuscitated a little higher up in New Bond-street, with the addition of a whistle. It may, perhaps, be possible that the proclivities of the young ladies of the period call forth the use of the whistle more than the pencil, at any rate their style of dress is usually more "horsey" than academical, and so possibly the whistle with which to call up a hansom may meet with a greater patronage than did the simple pencil.

I have recently seen some of the star fishes reproduced in diamonds, but I fear they too much resemble some of the conventionalised forms of the Celestial orbs to command any great or special attention. Still there are some fantastic poses of the brittle stars which might be appreciated, now that the conventionalising of the solar rays is being overtaxed. There are some not very distant forms of life that might form the source of inspiration for some of the most lovely designs ever conceived—viz., the anemones and corals. Still there is no lack of tempting baits to those who have the money to spend.

Watchmakers in Congress.

The question of opening a National Congress of Watchmakers and Jewelers has been recently broached by the *Moniteur de la Bijouterie et de l'Horlogerie* and the Lyons Chamber of Watch and Clock Makers. The latter has decided to open a national horological competition at the Exhibition to be held there in 1894, the date of which with particulars will soon be published. The successful work will be duly on view in the Exhibition.

The *Moniteur de la Bijouterie* has consulted its subscribers, with a favorable result, as to the expediency of organising a Watch and Clock Makers' Congress. Lately a meeting of Swiss watchmakers was held in Bienne. It was composed of 309 delegates, representing more than 100,000 workmen. The attention of the delegates was principally taken up by projects of assurance in case of illness, and an international organisation of workers. We call to mind, incidentally, a similar meeting held in Paris in 1889, and one in Besançon about the same time, but are unaware if the results answered the expectations of their promoters. There is a general tendency for delegates to meet in congress charged with the defence of certain interests, and the study of improved working of social and industrial organisations, but, unfortunately, this tendency is as yet confined to the embryonic state. Opinions, even among the leaders of the movement, differ much upon the main lines of action. It is evident that a congress, usually but of a few days' duration, cannot arrive at definite decisions capable of practical application, unless its organisers are agreed upon a clear and precise programme. The Germans in this respect are more advanced, having ten years ago organised a triennial congress, which has proved beneficial to the national trade. Returning to the congress in preparation, will it take place? Will it succeed? Beforehand we cannot say, but will follow the meetings with lively interest, and give an account of them to our readers. In any case we wish good luck and success to those giving their intelligence and energy to bring about a successful issue.—*Revue Chronique.*

BIRMINGHAM
NOTES

(By Our Own Correspondent.)*

There is but little to report about the Birmingham section of the jewelry trades for the month just passing away. The "summer lull" to which I referred last month has dragged wearily on with little or no variation, and the whole trade now has ceased to expect any decided improvement before the autumn. Whether their expectations will then be realised it is impossible to say, but sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof, and it is useless meeting trouble.

The approaching Royal Wedding, which at first sight had seemed to promise much for the jewelry trade, has in no wise fulfilled this expectation. I do not know to what extent some of the best class shops throughout the country may have benefited by selling from stock, but I do know that the demand on the home trade here has been conspicuous only by its absence. As a rule, upon all such special occasions there is a brisk call upon the wholesale and manufacturing houses for high-priced goods on appro., to meet the constant demand of the public for suitable presents. But very little of this has happened this time, and much disappointment is felt about it. I presume that most of the retailers have exceptionally large stocks on hand, and do their best to dispose of something from stock, rather than have to get other articles in. On the whole there seems a decided flatness and want of enthusiasm over the whole proceedings.

While, however, there has been nothing of wholesome excitement during the month to relieve the monotony of bad trade pleasantly, there have been several matters of unpleasant interest, which have excited much conversation. The first of these occurred early in the month, in the bankruptcy and arrest of Jacob Sandeman, of Liverpool. On the face of it this seems to be one of the most scandalous matters that have ever happened in our trade, but it also illustrates the unbusiness-like rush for trade, which is partly the result of bad times and partly the result of stupidity. I hear of some upon whom Sandeman called, who got a sufficient warning not to trust him, consequently they are not now interested in his proceedings. Could not those who are interested have received the same warning if they had made full inquiries before rushing in?

The next matter I have to refer to is the sudden stoppage of Aaron Jacobs, of Vyse-street. This was a surprise both to creditors and debtor, for, by Mr. Jacobs' own report, the blow fell upon him as unexpectedly as upon his creditors. In fact, on the Thursday afternoon he had given appointments for seeing stock, intending to buy several little parcels. On the Friday morning he received intimation from his bank of their intended action towards him, and found himself thus suddenly insolvent. Of course he had to countermand his appointments, and summon a meeting of creditors instead. He was extremely put out at this

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

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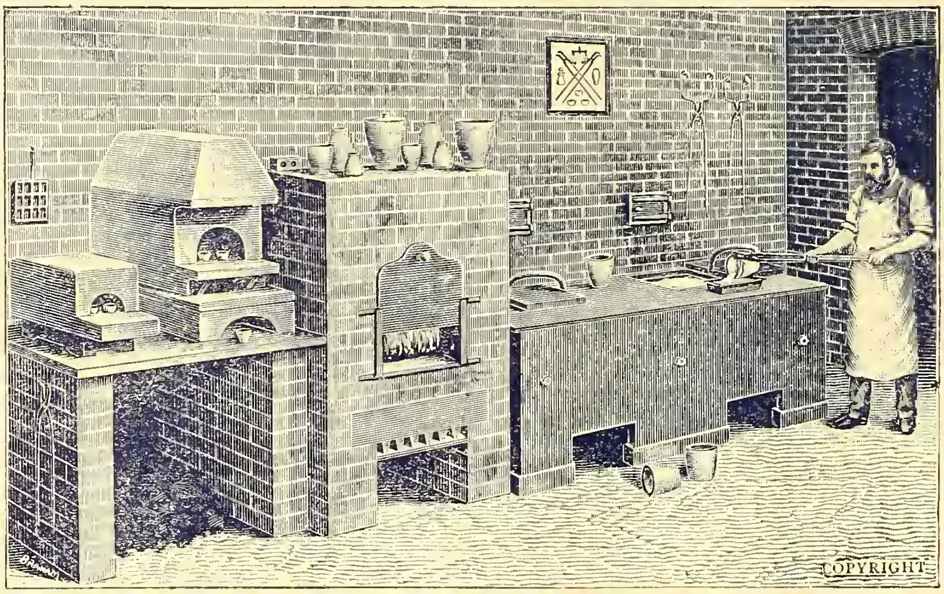

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sudden turn in his affairs, and he asserts that the day previous he had not the slightest idea of any such thing. The stupid policy of secresy affected by his advisers at the first meeting of creditors has not been of much service to him, it having rather tended to prejudice many against him. The meeting was called, and upon assembling it was coolly informed that several of the largest creditors had held a previous meeting and decided that no information should be given to the body of creditors then, but that the meeting had better be postponed for a week or so, when the position of things should be made known.

It is a remarkable thing, but I have repeatedly noticed that in all these bankruptcy matters the creditors are treated as though they were the sinning parties, while the debtors are belauded and condoled with until one hardly knows which is which. Why this should be I do not know, but I suppose it is all right as long as the creditors choose to allow it. It seems to me, however, that a gradual feeling of revulsion against this state of things is spreading; and it is being recognised that the patching-up policy of the Jewelers' Association in matters of failure is, in the long run, a serious evil to the best interests of the trade. The sooner this feeling becomes universal and its expression emphasised the better.

For the second time in his business career Mr. Wooldridge Lister has been compelled to pull up. He has never been really soundly established since his former failure some six years ago, and even those who have been trusting him again have been aware that he was gradually subsiding. His affairs are now under the control of the Jewelers' Association, with Mr. Allen Edwards as trustee. The whole affair, stock-in-trade, book-debts, and goodwill, are now being offered for sale by tender in one lot. The stock is quoted at £963, and the book debts at £158, total £1,122, the goodwill apparently being given in, as no charge is mentioned for it. The following sentence, taken from the prospectus of sale (the italics being mine), is suggestive:—"The stock is all in excellent condition, *the bulk of it having been purchased within the last twelve months.*" Mr. Lister, it seems, is open to an engagement as traveller, and is prepared to negotiate with the purchaser of the stock and book debts.

I can now pass on to something more satisfactory than failures, and first I am pleased to note that the balance-sheet of Messrs. S. Blanckensee and Sons, Limited, shows a better state of their affairs than they have previously been able to tell. They have at last got over their difficulties in Spain, as well as certain other matters which have tended to hinder them for the last few years, and they declare a first dividend of 5 per cent. This is satisfactory so far, and I hope they will now go on in increasing prosperity. I was somewhat amused to notice, as a secondary evidence of their growing prosperity, that they are having a thorough renovation of their premises in Frederick-street, both inside and out. Also they are having some extensive improvements internally, which will enable them the better to cope with their great body of business.

I am able to state that the order for 1,000,000 gold brooches to which I referred last month has been placed, and is now being worked upon. The pattern of the brooches is an open curb.

Mr. Councillor Jacobs, who recently had a tour in South Africa, brought home with him certain specimens of gold quartz—also several nuggets. These, I notice, are now placed in the Art Gallery, where they may be seen by anyone desirous of studying the material of their work in its native state.

Vyse-street is becoming quite fine in building improvements. The London and Midland Banking Company have erected fine new branch premises at the corner of Warstone-lane and Vyse-street. The front of the new building is artistically treated, and rendered very appropriate to the special industry of the district. At the corner is a canopy with a figure of a goldworker of the fourteenth century, with a carved subject panel denoting the trades of art metal workers and workers in glass; also a figure with the city coat of arms in the foreground and the old Soho works in the background. The elevations are executed in Bath stone, and form an imposing architectural feature of the district. Further, Mr. Landau's premises, opposite Hockley-street, have just had a new front put in, and a distinct artistic effort has been made to render it something out of the commonplace. I do not know whether the large bow-windows being put into the houses opposite the cemetery will add much to their beauty, but they will certainly increase their adaptability to business.

It is pleasing to note that robbery by workmen seems to have received a decided check lately, but unfortunately it is not quite eradicated. Messrs. D. and L. Spiers recently had occasion to prosecute one of their men, who stole goods and tried to pawn them. He was awarded two months' imprisonment. In reference to this subject, the following extract from a local paper is interesting:—"The manufacturers in the jewelers' district have good reason to be thankful for the services recently rendered to the trade by the detective force. A few months ago the complaints of cases where precious metal was being missed were very numerous, and the prosecutions which had taken place seemed to have had no distinct effect in checking the robberies. But since the last sessions, at which one or two notorious receivers were dealt with, the reports of cases have entirely ceased. Such a state of things speaks highly for the activity and shrewdness of the detectives."

The half-yearly meeting of the Birmingham Jewelers' Association is called for to-day (Monday, June 26th), but as this is my latest day for sending in "copy" I shall not be able to give any report of it till next month. There is one matter of interest to be discussed—that is the engaging of workmen by one member of the association from another without receiving a character from the previous employer. This rule has long obtained as regards the working men, but now it is desired to extend its operation to "other employés" as well. This may be all very well in its way, but the association must beware of emulating the tyranny of the modern trades union. There are matters of internal management with which the association has neither right nor need to interfere. And this, I think, is one of them.

I was not aware that Mr. Gilpin was an undischarged bankrupt, when I spoke so sympathetically of him last month, but it seems he failed some years ago in Sheffield, and has never got his discharge. Had his present creditors known this, presumably they would not have trusted him. It is to be hoped that the illegality of concealing such a fact will be emphasised sufficiently to protect tradesmen in the future.

Mr. A. P. Barnett, of Northampton-street, is constantly displaying different novelties in his window. Just now he has one that attracts a good deal of attention. It is a plaque, well painted with a representation of the Birmingham Art Gallery Clock Tower, and fitted into the place of the clock is a small movement giving the right time to passers by. This idea might well be adapted to other places, where the local tower and clock might be reproduced.

A Horological Institute for Victoria.

FOR some months past a movement has been proceeding amongst the watch and clock makers of the colony for the establishment of a society, which has now developed into an accomplished fact as the "Horological Institute of Victoria," an institution constituted on similar lines to the British Horological Institute. The objects of the organisation are to advance the study of horology, to raise the standard of work in the making or repairing of horological mechanisms, and to afford a guarantee of the skill of its members. The institute will issue certificates on this head to its members and generally endeavor to protect their interests. Mr. R. L. J. Ellery has been elected president of the institute, and recently presided at a meeting of the members, their apprentices, and friends, at the Athenæum Hall. After the president had delivered a short address on the objects and benefits of the institute, the presentation of certificates was made, Mr. Ellery receiving the first. The certificate of the institute is of artistic design, the artist being Mr. H. J. Herberte and the work executed by Messrs. Sands and M'Dougall. We wish our Antipodean brethren every success in their new undertaking. While it can do no harm, we are sure that it will do an immense amount of good, and be beneficial to the trade in many ways.

Development in Telescopes.

WHEN we hear or read about the giant telescopes now in course of construction, it is impossible to realise that at the close of the last century lenses of more than nine inches in diameter were considered beyond the hope of mortal man. The "perfection" to which telescopes were then thought to have been developed was considered unsurpassable. Single lenses and necessary unwieldiness of instrument had been overcome, colored fringes had disappeared with the invention of Dollond's achromatic arrangement, and the instrument was considered to have reached its climax both in size and capabilities. During the next twenty-five years, however, immense strides were made, and a nine and a-half inch refractor now claimed the honors of finality accorded to its predecessors. Twenty years later and we had object glasses of fifteen inches, only to be quickly followed by others several inches larger. These again were eclipsed by productions of a size which kept increasing until we had the great thirty-six inch lens of the Lick observatory, finality being claimed for each successive instrument. Yet the veteran Alvan Clark has at this moment two forty inch lenses, and one is now being finished for the Yorks forty inch refractor; and hopes are entertained of its being finished for the Chicago Exhibition.

Still more marvellous is the conception of the great French telescope, which will require a lens nine feet in diameter. When we remember that a lens must be absolutely flawless, without strain or striæ, we must admit that our courage fails us a little in considering the task the maker is set. However, the celebrated St. Gobin glass manufacturers consider it within the realms of possibility and are now engaged upon it. As soon as it is finished Loewe and Henry Bros. have agreed to supply the metal work. Should this turn out a success, what unknown worlds may be revealed?

The Wholesale Jewelry and Fancy Trades' Association.—This association, trading at 26, Corporation-street, Birmingham, of which Mr. G. Graham Poppleton is the enterprising manager, have opened a London branch. They have taken suitable premises at 164, Aldersgate-street, E.C. Mr. James Wallis, assistant manager, who has been in the employ of the association for a number of years, will have charge of the new offices, which offer a facility that will, no doubt, be largely availed of.

Messrs. B. H. Joseph and Co. have purchased from the trustees the stock and book debts of Wooldridge Lister, of 45, Frederick-street, Birmingham; and are offering the former for sale.

Mr. H. Airey (son of Mr. J. H. Airey, 126, High-street, watchmaker and jeweler) has opened premises in the same line of business, in the New Arcade, Sunderland.

Mr. P. Pfaff, watchmaker, &c., has removed from Boro'-road to 278, High-street, Sunderland.

Eight Hundred Tons of Sealing Wax.—Messrs. J. F. Craddock and Co., Birmingham, have again secured the colossal order for 800 tons of sealing wax for use in all the head post offices throughout the United Kingdom.

THE SCOTCH TRADE.

A Run Round the Northern Centres.

(*Continued from page* 331.)

Of genuine wholesale men in Edinburgh there are not many. We do not think that there are more than half a dozen men with travellers out, and with most of these watches form the bulk of their stock, the ordinary lines of jewelry being represented by a few pads assorted. In more than one instance we know of a large wholesale business being carried on in a little northern village, where, to our ideas, a wholesaler would be an impossibility. But in these large tracts of country it often happens that the whole supply of the country side gets into the hands of some energetic business man in one of the local hamlets, and such a one is often enabled to develop an extensive trade. This is the reason which renders a wholesale trade from the large centres unnecessary and unprofitable. The local man thrives where the stranger would starve, especially as with present day facilities the dweller in these remote villages can buy as well as his rival in the cities.

The two populations of Glasgow—its vast residential and its immense floating population—give to it more of a metropolitan flavor than is possessed by any other provincial town, with, perhaps, two exceptions. Its trade, too, is influenced by the same conditions, and we found more scope and variety there than in any place we have visited. While there are several of the retail establishments which legitimately claim the term excellent, both in the class of stuff shown and in the enterprise and business ability displayed in their management, on the whole they do not compare favorably with their neighbors last described. In the first-class houses there is a mixture of trade—an effort to make the best of both wealthy and mediocre clients—which detracts from the dignity and the completeness of the high-class trade. On the other hand, there is a fine series of shops which gather a very remunerative trade, although, to the technical visitor, they do not pass for more than second rate. The distinctive Scotch work, which formed such a feature in Edinburgh, is not made so much of here, although we found several good assortments of it. The general tone of Glasgow is more business-like and less pleasure-seeking than that of its eastern neighbor; and its shops seemed framed to fill an ordinary everyday demand, rather than to tickle the erratic fancy of tourists.

The wholesale trade of Glasgow is a large and important section of business, there being several establishments worth visiting. There are, however, two classes of wholesalers here. In the first place there is the semi-wholesaler, who, discarding the ground floor shop, opens up an elaborate show-room on the first or second floor, and boldly advertises himself as selling to the public at wholesale prices. He may or may not do a genuine wholesale trade as well, but he certainly makes use of his upstairs position to induce private buyers looking out for goods at a cheap rate. And we were surprised to notice the number and the high class of the public that are thus induced to climb the stairs for the purpose of buying as they suppose at wholesale prices. We are unable to say if the said public really reap any advantage or whether the healthful effect of the exertion is their only reward. At any rate, this is a style of business greatly in vogue in the commercial metropolis of Scotland, and it certainly seems to pay the "wholesale man" well.

But, as we have already said, a large and genuine wholesale trade is also done here. That is, a trade wherein the middleman buys from the manufacturer and sells not to the public but only to the real retailer. And these "Glasgie" men can buy at the right price, too, and with the tempting offer of cash down will often secure goods at a rate which would make the London factor's mouth water. Again, how-

International Exhibition, 1862

Jurors' Medal.

Established 50 Years.

R. HASWELL & SONS,

49 & 50, Spencer Street, Clerkenwell.

Special Attention
TO
Colonial
AND
Foreign Orders.

MATERIALS.
TOOLS.
WATCHES.

THE
"Triumph,"
"Boley's," "Martin"
AND
"Go-ahead" Lathes
With all accessories.

Established 50 Years.

Inventions Exhibition, 1885.

Highest Award, Silver Medal.

Agents for the Non-Magnetic Watch Company (Paillard's Patent) Compensation Balances & Springs.

General Illustrated Price List on application.

Non-Magnetic Compensated Watches, Bracelet Watches, and all varieties.

JOHNSON, WALKER and TOLHURST,

MURIATIC ACID SUPPLIED TO CUSTOMERS FOR TESTING PURPOSES, WITHOUT CHARGE.

Dealers in Antique Plate, Gold and Silver Refiners,
Purchasers of Jewelers', Dentists' and other Sweeps,
80, ALDERSGATE ST., LONDON, E.C.

EXTRA STRONG ACID BOTTLES, PRICE 1/6 EACH.

BULLION DEPARTMENT.

PRICES GIVEN FOR OLD GOLD.

Wedding Rings, 22 carat	76/-
Watch Cases, 22 ,,	70/-
,, 18 ,, Hall marked	60/-
,, 18 ,, (with forged bezels and bows)	50/- to 60/-
Hall marked, 15 ,,	50/-
Modern Coloured Gold	45/- 47/- to 50/-
Gold, 12 carat	40/-

Gold, 10 carat, 35/-; 9 carat	30/-
Mixed Jewelers' Gold, common	25/- to 27/6
Plated	7/6 to 12/-
Sterling Silver, Market price.	
Watch cases & Thimbles 6d. per oz. less than above.	
Silver Chains	2/- to 3/-
Gold Lace Burnt and Assayed.	

PRICES GIVEN FOR PARTING BARS BY ASSAY.

Best Bars, Fine Gold	84/-
,, ,, Silver	3/4
Common Bars, Fine Gold	84/-
,, ,, Silver	3/4

Silver Parting, Fine Gold, less 6 grs.	84/-
,, ,, Silver	3/4
Gold Assay at 3/6 per carat. Fine.	
Jewelers' Sweep & Photographic Waste purchased.	

All Parcels received in the morning are treated during the day, and cash or an offer is sent the same night, the Parcel being held over for return post.

Messrs. JOHNSON, WALKER AND TOLHURST beg to inform the Trade that they have increased their number of Furnaces for Smelting, and have now much better facilities for reducing all kinds of Limmel, Residues, and Sweeps, and trust they will be favoured with future parcels, which shall receive immediate attention. *January, 1893.*

TERMS.
—:—
MONTHLY ACCOUNTS.

DIAMOND MERCHANTS,
Wholesale Jewelers, Silversmiths, Watch Manufacturers,
80, ALDERSGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

PRECIOUS STONES.
Diamonds, Sapphires, Emeralds, Pearls, Rubies, Cats' Eyes, &c., at per Carat

MOUNTED DIAMOND WORK,
Consisting of Gem Rings of every Variety, also Diamond Necklaces and Tiaras Diamond Bracelets, Diamond Pendants and Earrings, Diamond Studs and Pins and Gem Lockets. Diamond Gold Mounted Jewelry of Best Quality.

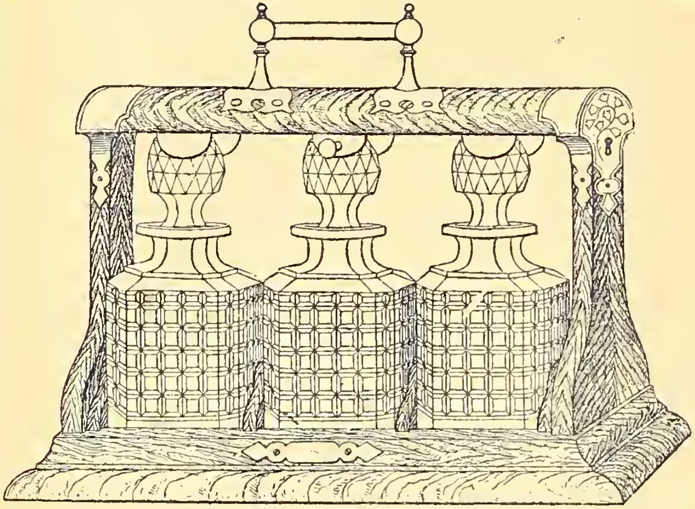
Goods are forwarded on approbation, subject to approved references, and Returns must be made within Seven Days unless otherwise arranged, and when sent for Nett Cash, remittance must accompany Returned Goods.

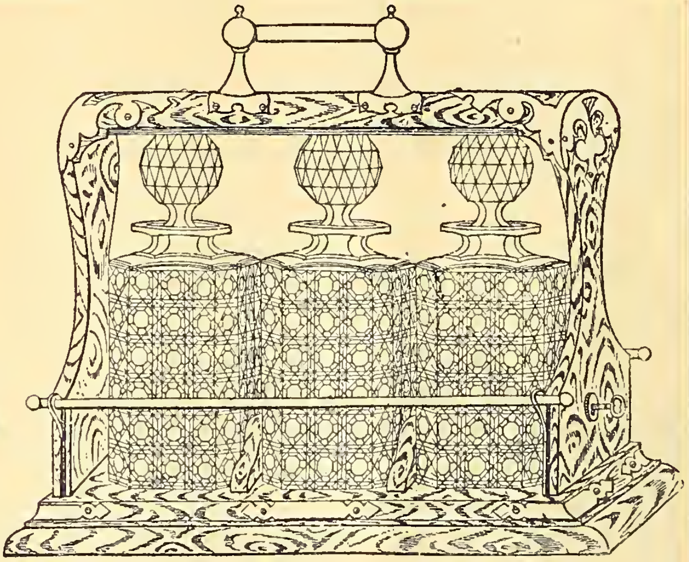
WALTHAM WATCHES.

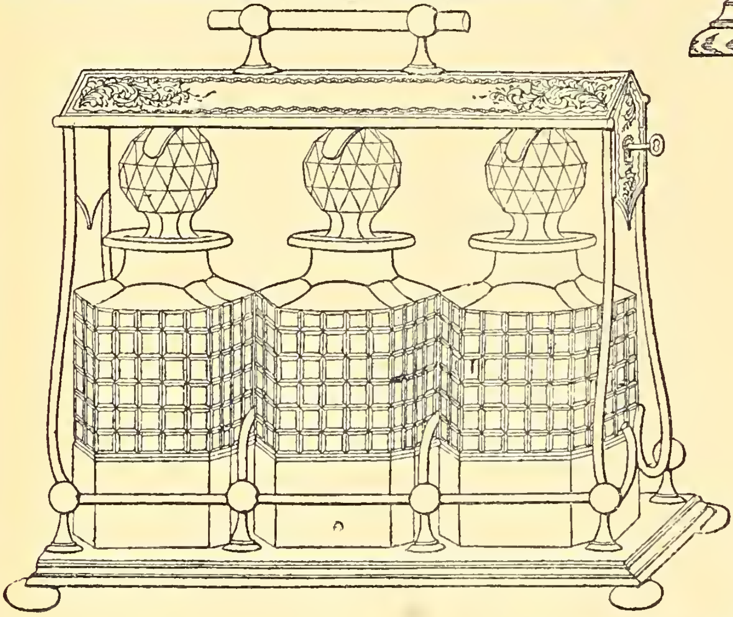
ROBBINS & APPLETON,

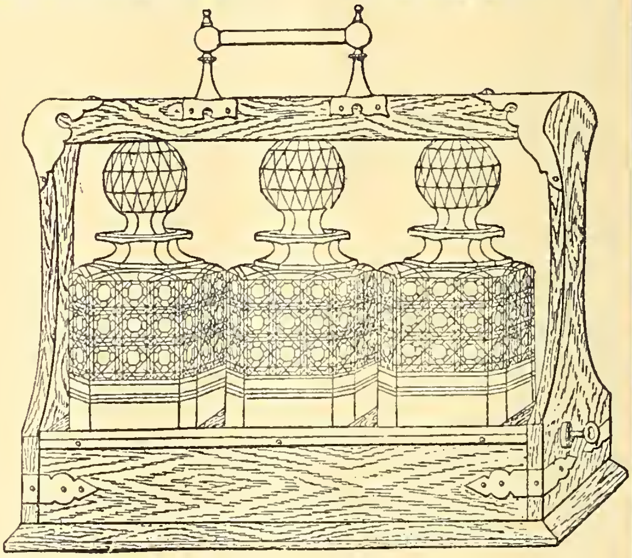
GENERAL AGENTS TO THE COMPANY,

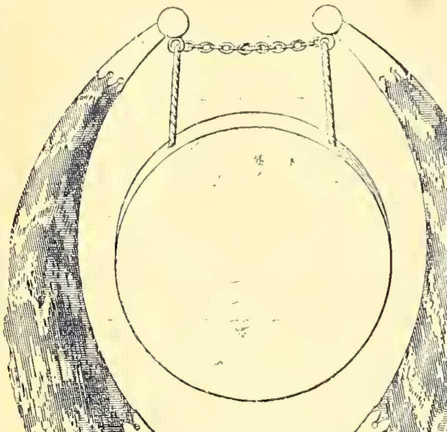
Waltham Buildings, London, E.C.

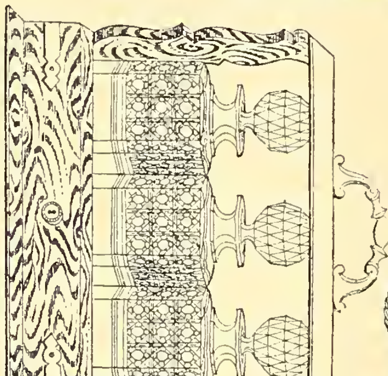


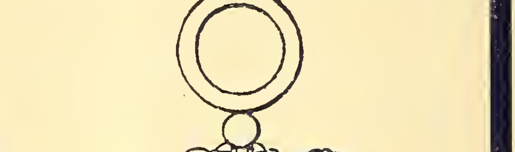












427. Liquor Frame.
751. Liquor Frame.
677. Liquor. All E.P.
1038. Liquor Frame.
748. Cape Horn Gong, 5, 7, & 9 inch.
Liquor, E.P. Top Bar.
1831. Regd. Ivanhoe, Liquor

HAMMOND CREAKE & Co.,

The Largest Manufacturers extant of Sterling Silver and A1 E.P.N.S. mounted-oak goods suitable for Prizes and Presentations. The Trade only supplied, and goods sent for approval. Always a large finished stock in hand, enabling us to guarantee them from shrinking and warping. All goods are mounted with A1 Electro-plate, not Nickelled Mounts, which, when once tarnished, cannot be cleaned. Old articles repaired, replated, and made equal to new.

TERMS, DISCOUNTS, AND CATALOGUES AND PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

Telegraphic Address—
"CREAKE, SHEFFIELD."

ST. MARY'S ROAD, SHEFFIELD.

ever, the bulk of this trade is in the cheaper lines, silver and nine carat being as a rule the highest limit for stock. The cheap gilt and gold fronted stuff makers find the largest and most profitable sales here, while the makers of fifteen carat and diamond goods get merely a picking. The reason is obvious. The country districts dependent on the local warehouse for their supplies have no outlet for expensive articles, the buyers of these always taking the opportunity of a visit to the city to make purchases.

We left Glasgow with regret, having found much of interest and of instruction. The Glasgow tradesmen are throughout kindly and genial, although keen after their own interests in mere matters of business, and we much enjoyed the time spent in their company. There is just one point we omitted to mention, and to which we may give more attention in a future article, and that is the extent to which manufacturing is carried on in this city. We had no idea previously that so much stuff was actually made in Glasgow. Nearly every establishment of any pretensions, whether wholesale or retail, has workshops attached, and in these not only are repairs and special orders executed, but goods are also made up for stock.

Our last visit was to Aberdeen. In this far northern place we found the gold and silver trades quite up to date. In fact, one of the finest provincial shops with which we are acquainted is here, and this one has numerous rivals, worthy of its steel, to compete with it for the best clientage of the district. In the sale of expensive jewelry, Aberdeen probably fares better than its more southern rivals—for this reason, its immense distance from London renders it imperative upon its wealthy residents to get their requirements on the spot, and consequently this demand is liberally catered for. Further, an occasional Royal order from Balmoral is a bait well worth waiting for, and any possible exhibition of goods which is likely to influence such order is studied. Hence the shop windows take a first rank in the exhibition of choice productions.

Commanding as it does the immense tract of country north of the Grampians, the business possibilities of the town are almost unlimited. Beyond the mainland its operations extend westward to the Hebrides and northwards to the Shetlands, and Aberdonian travellers regularly work throughout the whole district. Thus the wholesale trade of Aberdeen is large and capable of constant extension. But from the very nature of the country served its buyers can take of the cheaper classes of goods only. The best travelling houses of London and Birmingham find a remunerative trade in supplying the retail shops of Aberdeen with their high class goods, but their visits are useless to the wholesaler. His requirements are of the commonplace, cheap, and showy sorts, and of these he can buy largely, and pay promptly. His occasional need for an article of superior value can be supplied on the spot, if not he writes down for it, but anything expensive he will not stock.

Here our journey ended, and we returned to town better and wiser for our run. In thus giving the results of our inspection we trust we have given a few hints that may be found of value to our manufacturing and wholesale friends.

Liverpool Watchmakers' and Jewelers' Association and Foreign Workmen.

A MEETING of the members of the above association was held on the 4th ult. in the Shakespeare Hotel, 8, Williamson-square, Mr. John Bryant in the chair. It was considered probable that some extreme measures would be resorted to, but ultimately Mr. A. Newcomb moved, "That this meeting hears with deep regret of the importation of foreign workmen while so many British workmen are out of employment, and we appeal to employers to seriously consider their action before further proceedings are taken by the trade." Mr. W. J. Blunt seconded, and the motion was carried. It was also resolved that the secretary write to the Technical Education Committee respecting representation of the watch trade upon that committee. The meeting adjourned.

SHEFFIELD NOTES

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)*

IT was doubtless considered a good move on the part of the Executive of the World's Fair to send special invitations to the leading British newspapers. The result, however, so far as Sheffield is concerned, has scarcely been satisfactory from an American point of view. Sir William Leng, who represented the *Sheffield Telegraph* at the opening of the Exhibition, is a brilliant descriptive writer, and he has described what he saw without much regard to American susceptibilities. The country, with the exception of certain districts which he indicates, is not beautiful, and the Americans have done nothing so far to make it so. That much abused institution, the British climate, comes out well by comparison with what was experienced at the opening of the World's Show. Nevertheless, Sir William was much impressed by the general wealth of the country, and the opulence of a section of the American people. The quantity of high-priced goods of art workmanship exhibited in the shop windows of New York casts London and Paris, he admits, into the shade. Under a more enlightened fiscal policy, it is evident that the States would constitute a splendid market for Sheffield goods. As it is, however, Americans prefer to use table cutlery that won't cut, to buying from the hated Britisher. This policy of cutting off their noses to spite their faces seems to suit the Yankees at present, whatever it may do in the future. On the whole, there seems some ground for the assertion sometimes made that no Englishman would live in America who could command anything like a decent living at home.

THE 28th annual general meeting of the shareholders of Messrs. Martin Hall and Co. (Limited) has just been held at the Shrewsbury Works in Broad-street, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ebenezer Hall. This was the first silver and electro-plated concern in Sheffield to resolve itself into a Limited Liability Company, and the step taken twenty-eight years ago seems to have turned out well for all interested in the firm. Notwithstanding adverse circumstances affecting both home and colonial trading during the past year, the profits made admit of a dividend on the paid-up capital of the company at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum. This dividend, which includes a 2½ per cent. bonus, was accordingly declared, and a considerable amount carried forward to next year. Mr. Peter Wragg and Mr. Ebenezer Hall, Jun., the directors retiring by rotation, were re-elected, and votes of thanks were accorded to the chairman, the managing directors, and the staff for their services.

BY way of contrast to this happy state of affairs may be noted the fact that the balance of the estate of Thomas Ottley and Sons, of Meadow-street, has been declared and paid a first and final dividend of 5s. in the pound. This is not much, but it is more than at one time seemed likely of realisation. An old name thus disappears from the Britannia metal and electro-plate trades of the town. It says much for the healthiness of the electro-plate trade in

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the views of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

Sheffield that such disappearances have not hitherto been common in the town. As time goes on there are doubtless fluctuations in the relative importance of the different houses in the trade, but absolute extinction is comparatively rare.

IF, however, the firms remain and flourish under the old names, their individual members are as mortal as other people. The old firm of Shaw and Fisher has just lost its head in the person of Mr. Frederick Hall, who has fallen a victim to the after-effects of influenza. Mr. Hall came of a cutlery family, and only became an electro-plate manufacturer through his connection with Shaw and Fisher, of which firm he ultimately became the head. He thus became a considerable employer of labour, and in that capacity was well spoken of by those best able to judge. Mr. Hall, who was a liberal supporter of several religious and philanthropic schemes, is survived by a son and daughter.

THE representatives appointed by the Town Council to confer with representatives of the Cutlers' Company and the Chamber of Commerce as to the advisability of establishing a Chamber of Arbitration for the settlement of trade disputes, have just made their report. They advocate the formation of the Chamber on the same lines as the London Chamber, that the Town Council take charge of the scheme and the Town Clerk act as registrar. This the latter had previously consented to do, leaving the question of salary open for twelve months, when the probable amount of work in connection with the office might be calculated with some amount of exactitude. A considerable amount of opposition to the scheme developed itself in the Council, chiefly from the legal fraternity, whose antipathy degenerated into something very like obstruction. Amendment after amendment was proposed and negatived, but ultimately the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

IT is quite in keeping with the general fitness of things that the Sheffield presents to be given to the Duke of York and Princess May on the occasion of their marriage should be of Sheffield manufacture, and connected with the staple trades of the town. The work has been distributed among the following firms :—First among the silversmiths comes Messrs. Round and Son, to whom has been allotted the getting-up of the grape scissors, nut crackers and picks, and sugar lifters; Hutton and Sons make the dessert goods, while Walker and Hall get up the fish eaters, and Martin and Hall the coffee spoons, and Dixon and Sons the silver spoons and forks. The cutlery firms employed on the present are Rodgers and Sons, who are entrusted with the best cutlery, Butler and Co., who will make the game carvers, and Atkinson Bros., who will get up the common cutlery. The committee have thus fulfilled their difficult task with a great amount of judgment, as the firms named are fairly representative of the cutlery and silver trades of the town, and may be trusted to give a good account of themselves when the work is completed.

Important Chemical Discovery.—Recent experiments of Professor Pictet have shown that at a temperature of 150° below zero centrigrade there is no chemical action between sulphuric or nitric acid and potash, and that although the affinity between oxygen and potassium under ordinary circumstances is so great that when thrown into water the metal liberates the hydrogen with such excessive chemical action that it ignites it, at the low temperature mentioned above no union takes place. In this condition these reagents have been subjected to an electric current, with results which may prove of unanticipated importance.

Burglary Insurance—A great deal of commotion has recently been caused in the trade owing to several Burglary Insurance Offices disputing claims when sent in, especially when they refer to cases of shop-lifting plain and simple. It has been broadly circulated that no offices will insure against this kind of loss. Such a statement as this is certainly incorrect. How many offices there are that will really do so we are unable to say, but certainly the burglary insurance effected at "Lloyds" covers all losses arising in this way. The agent, Mr. Chas. Allan, 110, Leadenhall-street, E.C., informs us that "Lloyds" is the only company that insures against loss by the light-fingered fraternity; if so it is a most important necessity to insure with them.

Coventry Watch Movement Manufacturing Company.

THE annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Coventry Watch Movement Manufacturing Company, Limited, was held at the Works, Spon-street, on the 16th ult. There were present Mr. S. Yeomans (chairman of the board of directors), who presided, Messrs. T. Kinder, E. Denny, T. J. Mercer, and C. Shufflebotham (directors), H. J. Norris, R. Wright, the secretary (Mr. E. F. Peirson), and many others.

Letters of apology were announced from Messrs. R. Hill, R. Waddington, and J. Hewitt (directors). Altogether the meeting revealed a state of things not so satisfactory as could be wished, not so much in connection with the year's trading of the company as with the Coventry trade in general. A dividend of 6 per cent. on the preference shares was declared, and it was decided to reduce the formation expenses and loss account by £150 and carry the balance, £89, forward to next account, not declaring any dividend on the ordinary shares. During the evening it transpired that the committee had been subject to a great many wrong accusations during the year, which they boldly challenged. The relations between the Coventry and Prescot trade can be estimated from one of the remarks drawn from the chairman, who said that a few years ago there was the idea that Lancashire would never make a complete watch; but that was now done, and Prescot was Coventry's rival in the market for watches. It might be the time would come when the Prescot company would refuse to send out movements, and Coventry therefore needed to be on the defensive, and make its own; he therefore thought the company had done wisely in accepting the agency for the Prescot movements. The Prescot company now sold about £15,000 worth of movements per year in Coventry. When questioned as to why the Coventry company did not make keyless movements, the chairman replied it was because they had not got either the machinery or the female labor, and high priced labor made their production an unprofitable transaction. On the whole, the meeting revealed a sad state of petty jealousy to exist in Coventry, which must sooner or later be fatal to the industry. If all could come to recognise how vital and important it is to mutually study that which is for the benefit of the trade as a whole, our industry would again rise to a pre-eminent position in the world, but so long as it is cut up into innumerable sections, each jealous of the other, so long will it remain in an unsatisfactory and dwindling condition. For the benefit of those who are not familiar with the Coventry trade, it is necessary to point out that this company does not comprise the Coventry trade, nor can the productions of the watch city be gauged by it. There is in Coventry probably some of the finest machinery in the world, and a glance at the Kew report will show the kind of work turned out by some firms. Hence the difficulty, and we may say improbability, of anything like an amalgamation.

Key for Accrington Park.

THIS is a handsome key presented to Reginald Gervise Hargreaves, Esq., on the occasion of the opening of the new park at Accrington. It is mediæval in style, the pillar being composed of four clustered columns with Gothic moulding and a rich foliated capital. From spreading scrolls above the capital the head of the key rises, circular in form, and having round it a charming open carved border composed of Maltese crosses and fleurs-de-lis. Within this is a circle on which the inscription of the key is given in raised gold letters, following round the two sides of the head. On the obverse are the arms and crest of the Borough of Accrington given in enamel colors, while the motto, "Industry and Prudence Conquer," comes on a ribbon beside it. The monogram of Mr. Hargreaves is given in enamel between the scrolls which lead up to the head of the key. On the reverse of the head is a charming design referring to Oak Hill Park. Against a blue sky a richly chased representation of an oak in full foliage is given, and below it is a stag with antlers in the act of browsing from its lower branches. The whole key is worked out in a superb manner by Messrs. T. and J. Bragg, of Birmingham, who are so well-known for this class of work, and to whom it was entrusted by Mr. D. Tunks, of Accrington.

Number of Watches Passed at Kew.

IT would, perhaps, have been better last month to have quoted the number of *passes* than *entries* in the Kew Competition. Of these 460 out of 850 were secured by Messrs. Stauffer, Son and Co., increasing their proportion to considerably more than half the entire number.

P. & A. GUYE, 77, Farringdon Road,
LONDON, E.C.

P. & A. GUYE'S

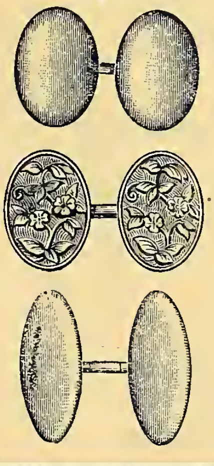
London-made Movements
IN
London-made Cases
ARE THE BEST.

Sole Agent for United Kingdom:

H. WILLIAMSON, Ltd., 81, Farringdon Road,
LONDON, E.C.

THE
'Castle' Link.
PATENTED.

TRADE MARK
REGD.



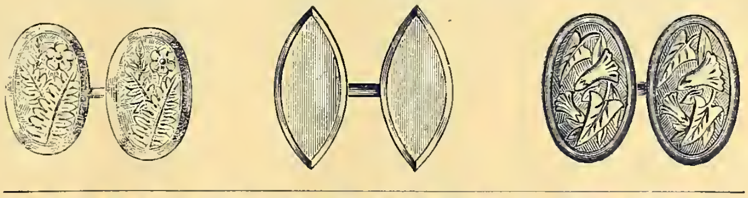
THE "CASTLE" LINK
JONES'S PATENT.

Is Instantly Inserted or Removed. | Does not Crease the Cuff.
Is Entirely Self-Adjusting. | Does not Wear the Button Hole.
Has no Springs or Complicated Parts to get out of Order.

T. WALTER JONES, PATENTEE AND SOLE MANUFACTURER
48-50, HYLTON STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
Telegraphic Address: "STUDS, BIRMINGHAM." ONLY WHOLESALE HOUSES SUPPLIED.

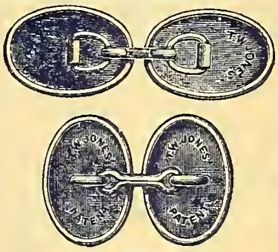
IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The success which has attended the sale of the "Castle" Link has induced several makers to put up their goods upon cards closely resembling those on which the "Castle" Link has been sent out FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS. It is important, therefore, for buyers to note that my Patent Links are put up on cards bearing my Trade Mark as above, and the words **"THE CASTLE LINK,"** JONES'S PATENT.

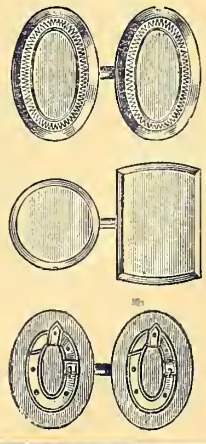


THE "CASTLE" LINK
JONES'S PATENT.

READY FOR INSERTING IN CUFF.



IN CUFF.
MADE IN
GOLD, SILVER,
GOLD PLATE, PEARL,
GOLD-CASED,
NICKEL SILVER, &c.



WALTER, BERGER & Co.,

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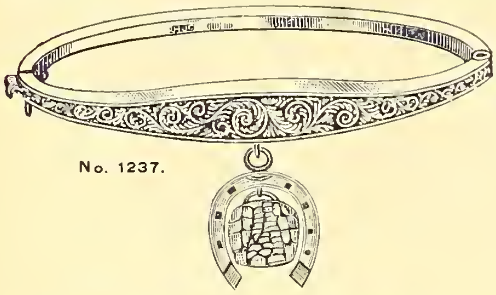
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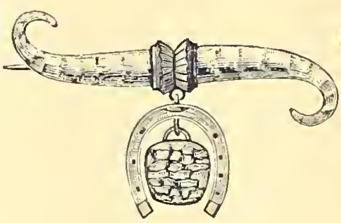
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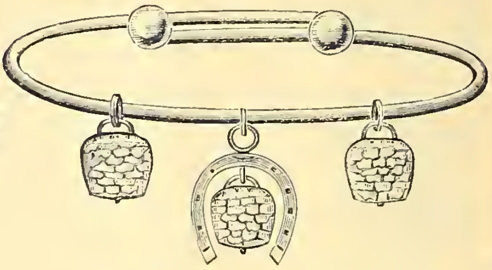

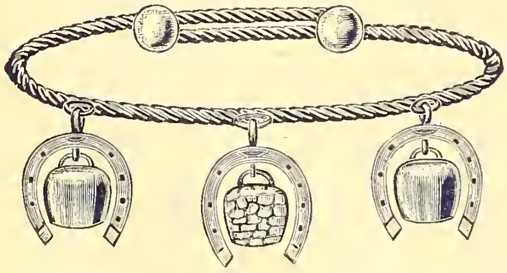
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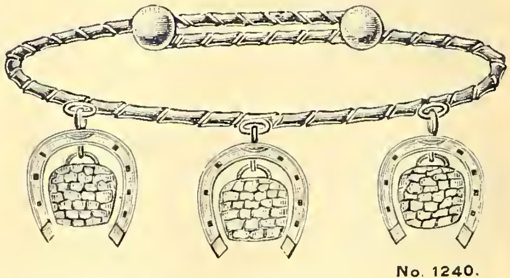
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WATCHMAKER, JEWELER AND SILVERSMITH.

THE FORMS OF ROUGH DIAMONDS.

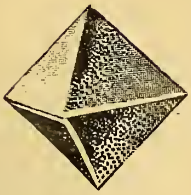


FIG. 1.

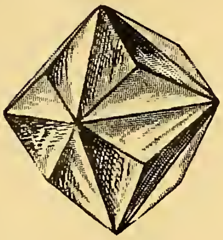


FIG. 2.

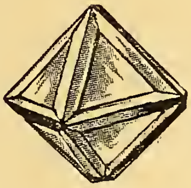
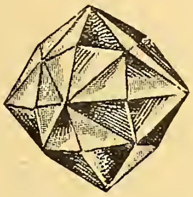


FIG. 3.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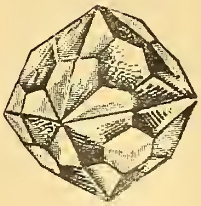
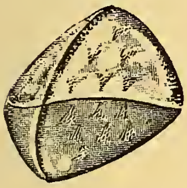


FIG. 5.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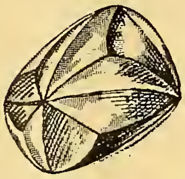


FIG. 7

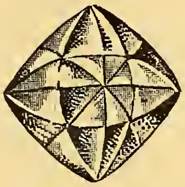


FIG. 8.

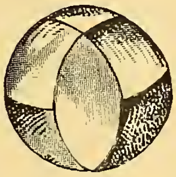


FIG. 9.

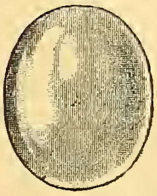


FIG. 10.

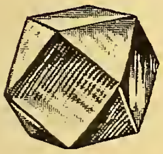


FIG. 11.

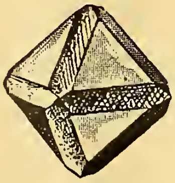


FIG. 12.

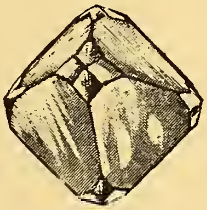


FIG. 13.

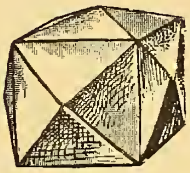
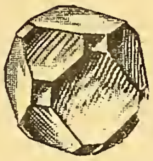


FIG. 14.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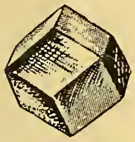


FIG. 16.

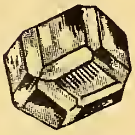


FIG. 17.

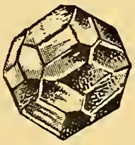


FIG. 18.

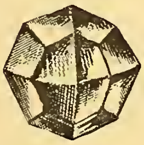


FIG. 19.

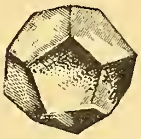


FIG. 20.

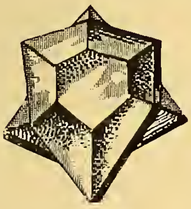


FIG. 21.

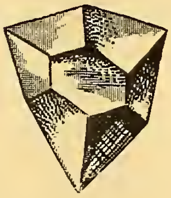


FIG. 22.

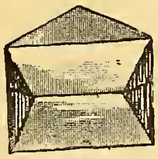


FIG. 23.

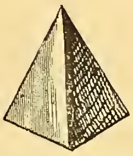


FIG. 24.

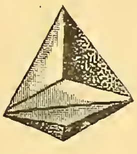


FIG. 25.

THE PRINCIPAL FORMS OF CUT DIAMONDS.

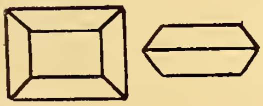
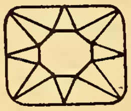
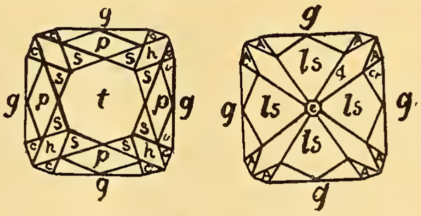
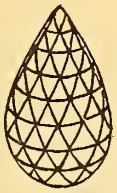


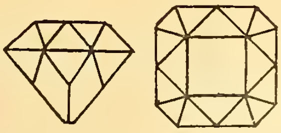
TABLE CUT.

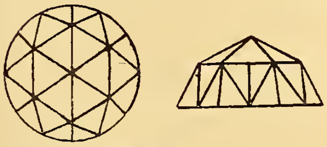

OLD ENGLISH SINGLE CUT.



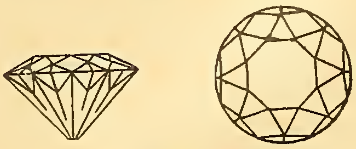
FULL BRILLIANT CUT.


BRIOLETTE.


OLD BRILLIANT CUT.


ROSE CUT.

t	table.	*c*	culet.
p	pavillions.	*ls*	templets.
s	star facets.	*q*	quoins.
c	upper skill facets.	*a*	lower skill facets.
u	,, cross ,,	*cr*	,, cross ,,
h	,, quoins.	*g*	girale.


VICTORIA CUT.

THE ART OF DIAMOND CUTTING.

[Illustrated by Special Supplement Plate.]

There are many people whose idea of the function of the leader of an orchestra is the wagging to and fro of a more or less formidable stick in a threatening attitude over the heads of performers, and there are people who hold just as scientific views with regard to the gem cutters' art. When a diamond is found as a pebble it is often anything but an attractive object. Specimens lying before me at this moment are as lifeless and dull as a piece of ground glass, and have no outline to indicate their royal nature. Others are highly lustrous, bright, and shining, to such a degree that no amount of polishing would make them brighter. The greater number of them are some variety of the octahedron, either simple, as Fig. 1, or with faces built upon them as in the four succeeding figures. At other times the faces are more or less curved, giving rise to forms shown in Figs. 6 to 10; in the latter instance no faces are visible at all, the diamond being almost round. This octahedral form is of special interest, as we shall subsequently see. It will be noticed that upon the octahedral faces triangular depressions pointing towards the girdle frequently occur. This octahedron also combines with the cube to form Fig. 11., with the rhombic dodecahedron to form crystals of the shape of Fig. 12, with the four-faced cube (Fig. 14) to form crystals of the shape of Fig. 13, and with the cube and rhombic dodecahedron to form those similar to Fig. 15. The rhombic dodecahedron (Fig. 16) is a form frequently assumed by Brazilian diamonds. At times it combines with the twenty four-faced traphezohedron (Fig. 19) to a greater or less extent, as seen in Figs. 17 and 18. These forms are rare at the Cape, but are found in India and elsewhere, as is the pentagonal dodecahedron (Fig. 20). Usually the faces of these are more or less obliterated by the rounding habit, but they must be recognised by the cleaver before he can take advantage of the property of cleavage. There is a very peculiar habit possessed by some gems, notably the diamond, of producing forms which present quite different appearances to the rest. Fig. 23 shows such a form; it is the octahedron, as it were, split diagonally across, turned half round and then stuck together again. Fig. 21 and 22 show such a form, where six faces have been built upon the octahedral faces, and the intervening faces reduced to almost nothing. This is probably one of the very commonest forms of South African diamonds. Figs. 24 and 25 show hemihedral forms of the octahedron, the former being simple, the latter facetted.

It is with such forms as these, in more or less distorted conditions, together with splinters and pebbles, that the diamond cutter has had to deal; of course, the whole art of to-day is the result of an evolution, indicated by a previous article.

Table Diamonds.—The first attempt at diamond cutting was probably the putting on of a table to well-formed crystals, or bezles to cleavages, which have since been known as table diamonds. In after years flat cleavages of diamonds were often cut in this manner for portraits, and in recent times the edges of the portrait diamonds have been facetted with triangular and rhombic faces.

Rose Diamonds.—This style of cutting was introduced about 1520, and from its fanciful resemblance to an opening rose it was named after that flower. It consists of triangular facets; those meeting in the centre are called star-facets, and those in the succeeding zones diagonal-faces. The depth of a good rose should be half its diameter. Usually they are round, but they may be almost any shape, drop, pear, or oval. One side is invariably flat. The number of facets in a rose varies considerably, and when there are 1,000, or even 500 stones to the carat, it cannot be expected that the faces are very numerous. In the Brabant rose there are twelve or less; in the Dutch rose twenty-four, and in the rose recoupée thirty-six.

The Briollette or Briolet.—The briolet is nothing more than two roses joined together without showing the union, so as to have neither table, culet, nor girdle. The pair of ear drops formerly possessed by Marie Antoinette, and the gem jumbled up under the names of the Florentine, the Australian Yellow, etc., are examples of this style of cutting.

Single Cut.—To the rose succeeded the single cut table; the earliest Venetian gem has a square table, and very little work, as shown above. The old English single, or star-cut, shows an octagonal table, and marks advances over the Continental form.

Brilliant Cut.—The improvements reached in the single-cut were soon followed by others, which resulted in what is known as the brilliant, and by the time this was reached the art had developed along scientific lines. Every face had its special name, and by recognising the octahedron as the unit of calculation, every face bore a certain relation to the others. The formula laid down was as follow :—The table must be made five-eighths of the distance from the apex to the girdle, and the culet one-eighth of the entire thickness; the diameter of the table should be four-ninths of the girdle; the culet one-fifth of the table; and the girdle should equal the thickness of the gem. These proportions are, of course, immensely superior to anything before them, but are nevertheless a long way from correct. Nor were they even rigidly adhered to except in the best stones. Unfortunately cutters usually cut for weight rather than for effect, and almost every Indian stone is thus spoiled through over-weighting, for no light which enters a diamond beyond a certain angle returns again. Therefore, instead of getting a flashing forth of living fire, we get a dead, glassy appearance.

The Victoria Cut.—There is a style of cutting with which we are now familiar. It originated about twenty years ago, but with whom it is difficult to say. We saw numerous trials being made in this country, and subsequently in Paris and Antwerp, which ultimately led up to the pattern since adopted. It is sometimes called "Antwerp" pattern; at others the honor is claimed for a Parisian, but we believe that our English cut stones of this pattern were first upon the market, and therefore propose to call this style, (of which there are several varieties) the Victoria pattern. It is by far the best that has appeared, although somewhat extravagant, as it incurs great loss in cutting.

At the same time from various reasons the actual cutting of diamonds increased most in Amsterdam and Antwerp. At one time it was estimated that these two cities alone had monopolised fifteen-sixteenths of the entire cutting trade. Our Amsterdam correspondent informs us that at the present time in that city alone there are over sixty factories, working by steam power, amongst which about twenty are very large, with setting spaces for from 100 to 1,000 men. Altogether, cleavers, cutters, polishers, verstellers, brokers, and merchants, there are now about 10,000 engaged in the industry. But for all this, most of the very finest work is turned out in London.

A Worthy Suggestion.—In connection with a recent visit of a shop-thief, a correspondent of the *Birmingham Daily Post* has suggested the idea of photographing all suspicious customers, and developing the negatives should they be required. But the trouble of it is, that in cases like this the thieves are *not* suspected persons. The only way to carry out the suggestion would be to photograph every stranger. If this were done and the negatives kept for future use thousands of robberies might be prevented.

The United States "Hall Mark."—A recent decision of American law might be of interest to some of our readers, arising from watch cases not assaying to the quality marked. In a case tried, the judge remarked that "the failure to assay full eighteen carats or fourteen carats after manufacture was due to the ordinary process of construction"; and it is universally known in the trade that in the manufacture of a case solder is necessarily used, and some parts are necessarily made of inferior gold for purposes of durability, and that the case, when assayed as a whole, according to the custom of the United States Assay Office, will assay less than fourteen carats and eighteen carats respectively.

The World's Fair.

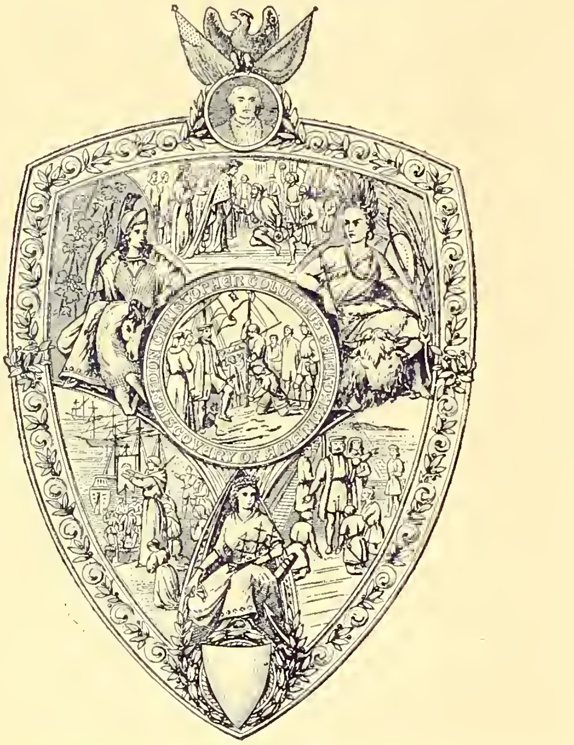
(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

(Continued from page 319.)

CHICAGO, *June 15th, 1893.*

WANT of space prevented more than mere mention of the Columbian Shield in last month's Exhibition notes, but being such a very fine specimen of English work, and commanding the highest praise from the American trade and public generally, your readers may perhaps be pleased to hear more about it, and to see an illustration of it.

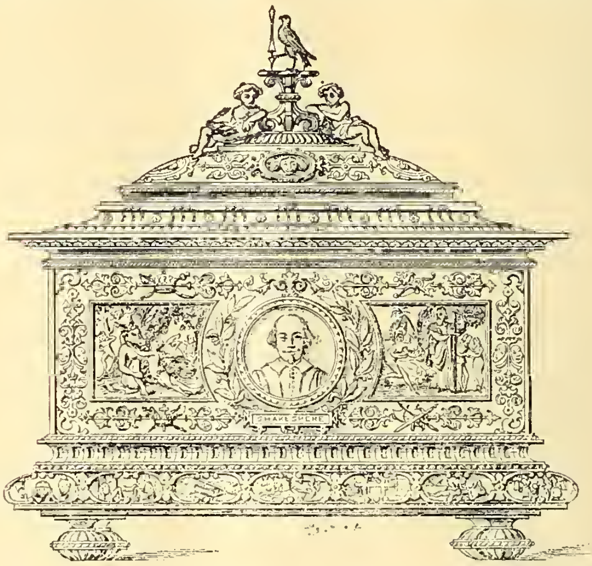
One panel depicts Columbus and his crew receiving the priestly blessing prior to their departure for Palo; another shows Columbus pointing out the island of Cuba to his mutinous crew. The centre panel is a graphic picture of the raising of the Spanish flag upon the first discovered land of the American continent. The upper panel is a finely executed representation of the reception by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain of the great navigator upon his return from the discovery of the New World. Between the two lower panels is seated a figure symbolical of navigation, and above them and on each side of the centre picture are two groups, emblematical of America and Spain. The whole is surmounted by a medallion portrait of Columbus, with the American Eagle above, this having the flags of Spain and America grouped on either side.



Another magnificent specimen of British work, upon which a chapter might be written, is the Shakespearian Casket, also made by the Manufacturing Goldsmiths' and Silversmiths' Company. It is intended to illustrate the superb art of damascening as practised in England, and has received the admiration of the whole of the American trade. It is composed of 18-carat gold, and produced in the rich Elizabethan style. The body is damascened iron, the mouldings being in gold. There are eight enamel paintings and two medallions. The centre medallions show the great poet and his birthplace.

As to the arabesques and their execution, the charming effect of the various colors of gold and platinum upon the iron, and the amount of subject-material introduced, it would be impossible to describe them. The enamels are such specimens of the art as one very rarely sees, while they portray absolutely scores of incidents and scenes taken from the works of the immortal bard, some idea of which may, perhaps, be gathered from the accompanying illustration.

Naturally the greatest display of the trade is made by American firms, many of whom seem to have utterly disregarded expense in the erection of their stands and show cases. The Self-winding Clock Company, of New York, have the finest advertisement in the whole Exhibition, for no visitor can possibly enter the Manufactures Building, the most important of all the departments, without seeing their exhibit. Right in the centre of the building this firm has erected a structure which rises above all the others. It is a clock tower 120ft. high, standing on a base 40ft. high. Fronting each of the four grand avenues are four portals 16ft. wide and 28ft. in height, on each side of which are panels with inscriptions of the story of Columbus. On the frieze of the top of the first storey are shown in panels the seals and escutcheons of each of the forty-four States of the Union. The second storey, which contains spacious reception-rooms for the Director-General of the Exhibition, is 12ft. high and extending around it is a balcony 10ft. wide. The clock itself has a face 7ft. in diameter, and shows the hours, minutes, and seconds, and days of the month. The dome is surmounted at the height of 120ft. by a globe 16ft. in diameter. This afternoon I ventured up to the top of the tower. The view to be obtained of the Manufactures Department from this eminence is really well worth the trouble required to attain it. As I gazed down on the stands of the various exhibitors, with their gilded domes and spires, I could almost fancy myself in an Eastern city. Looking south, down the Columbian Avenue on the right, I could see close underneath the British section, and further along the Canadian, Danish, Swiss, and Italian exhibits, while on the left lay the French, Belgian, Russian, and Norwegian sections. Then turning round and looking north the United States Department lay all along the right-hand side, with the German, Austrian, and Japanese sections on the left.



The tower clock, which is on the third floor, is controlled by electric current from a smaller clock in the stand of the company on the ground floor, which is kept correct by signals received from the United States Observatory at Washington. On the top floor is a chime of nine bells, which are rung by means of magnetic plungers connected with a small keyboard downstairs. In the stall of the company are shown specimens of the self-winding clock, which, instead of being driven by a spring, is worked by impulse arms. The makers contend that by this means all chance of friction or accumulation of dust is removed.

(To be continued.)

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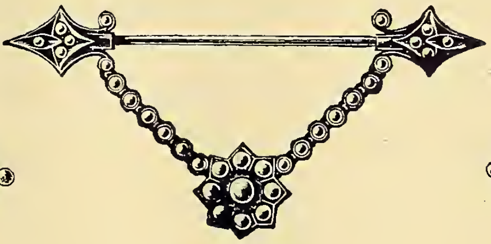
Two Leading Articles.

OPALS, Set and Unset,

AND

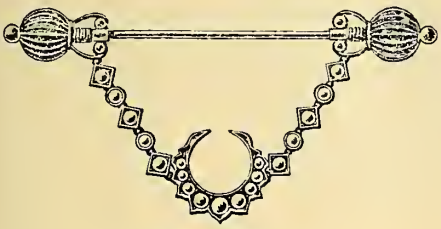
The PATENT BROOCH.

No Joint or Catch—Double Spring Action. The Pin entirely hidden when worn, as Figure No. 7.



No. 13.

MADE IN NUMEROUS DESIGNS.



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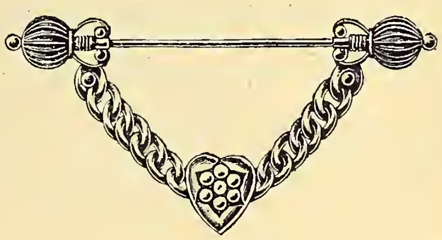
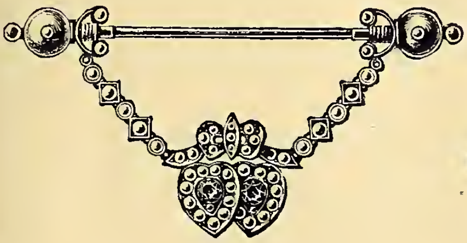


No. 15.

☛ ***SEND for a SAMPLE on SALE or RETURN.***



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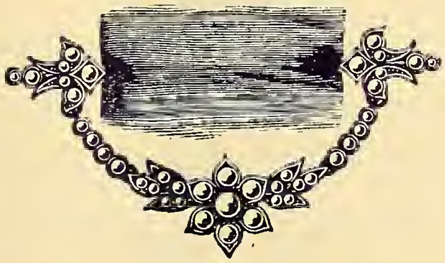

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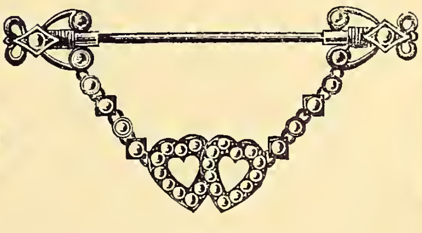


No. 16.

Steam Diamond Mills,

116 & 118, CLERKENWELL ROAD,
LONDON, E.C.

FORD & WRIGHT,

Diamond Cutters & Polishers,

GEM CUTTERS & LAPIDARIES.

We have been successful in effecting a great improvement on the old system of Polishing Diamonds, and we now undertake to cut and polish them, and produce the very best results at the following low prices :

Above	10	Carats	each,	10/0	per	Carat.
,,	3	,,	,,	12/6		,,
,,	1	,,	,,	15/0		,,
,,	$\frac{1}{2}$	,,	,,	17/6		,,

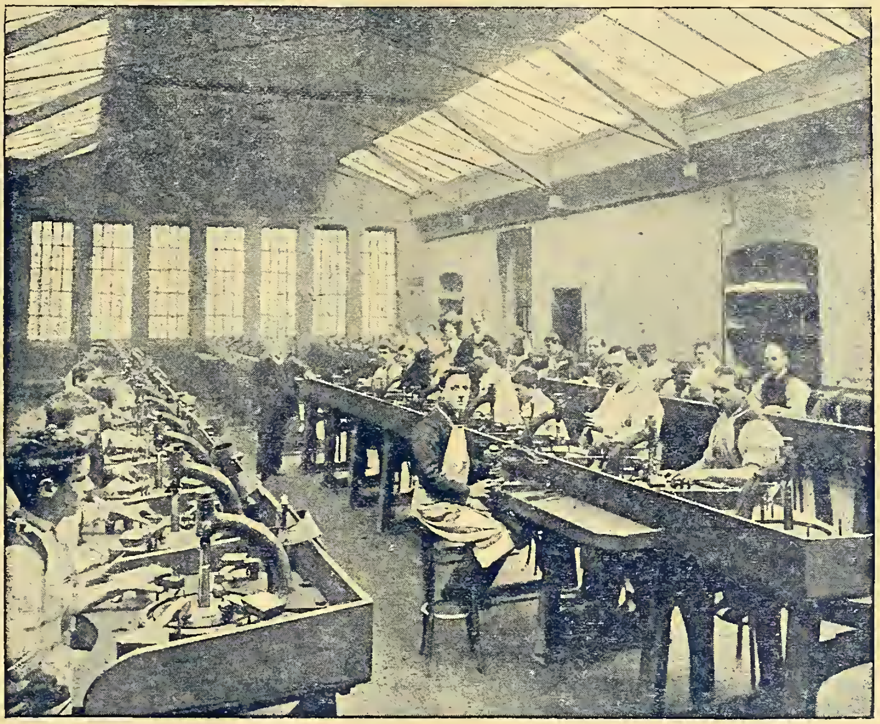
Parcels of Diamonds transmitted from the Diamond Fields or elsewhere can be cut and polished in the shortest time, and, if required, sold at the highest Market rates at 1°/o Commission.

All Diamonds and other Gems are cut in our Factory by the most skilled English Workmen.

Telegraphic Address : "BRIOLETTE, LONDON."

ENGLISH DIAMOND CUTTING.

We have previously remarked that England—or rather London—always retained her own high place in the cutting industry. It is true this has passed through many vicissitudes, but the commercial supremacy of the world's Metropolis was favorable to the retention of its industries, and, when circumstances favored it, to the fostering of their development. We well remember the jealousy shown by the Dutch when the first discovery of diamonds in South Africa developed anew the diamond-cutting trade in London, and can call to mind several riotous scenes connected therewith not far from old Clerkenwell Green. At this time Mr. W. Ford was adding to his establishment some improved machinery for the cutting of diamonds, a line of conduct by no means pleasing to the sons of the land of dykes. Nor have these improvements ceased, although the very finest work connected with the art is turned out here. We have had the opportunity of observing the development of the diamond cutter's art in this country during the last five-and-twenty years, and have often been charmed with its perfection.



Diamond cutting is naturally divided into three sections, viz.—cleaving, cutting and polishing.

Cleaving Diamonds.—When the rough diamonds go into the factory they first pass through the hands of the cleaver, who goes carefully over them and, by noting the shape of the rough gem, decides the best form for it to take. It may be so distorted that it bears but slight resemblance to the octahedron; still its relation to it must be known, as in lines parallel to that form slices as thin as wafers can be readily split, and in no other. He then divides his stones into two groups which he terms respectively *two-point* and *four-point.* The octahedron and any other form coinciding with it is a four-point; by cleavage alone such a stone can be reduced to a square or four-pointed girdle, with tapering upper and lower sides; a table could not be obtained by cleavage from such a stone. The pieces cleaved off can be made into roses or even small brilliants.

On the other hand, it may be found best to make the table at right angles to this, and in this case one edge has to be removed, carrying two points. To this kind the name two-point is applied. When it is remembered that diamond crystals are almost always more or less distorted, it becomes evident that the work of the cleaver is a very important one, and one calculated to save both weight and labor. As the diamond crystalises in the isometric system its optical properties are the same in all directions—thus differing from the anisotropic ruby, sapphire, tourmaline, etc., which need cutting in a certain direction in relation to the optic axis. The cleaver is thus enabled to make the best of the size of the gem. The way the cleaving is effected is very simple, although absolutely astonishing. Having decided the direction the piece is to be cleaved (and will cleave), a scratch is made in the diamond, the latter being firmly fixed; a steel knife is then placed in the crack, and a sharp blow administered, which brings off the cleavage face in a very clean manner. This operation is repeated as required along any, or all, of the eight facets. In this condition they are known as kapjes.

Preparing for Cutting.—The diamonds next pass to the setter, who has before him a gas furnace in which are iron sticks about six inches long, terminating in a cup about an inch in diameter, filled with a tapering ball of solder about the size of a bantam's egg. By him they are fixed into the molten solder at the angle necessary for cutting or polishing any given face. This operation is repeated as each face is cut or polished.

Cutting Diamonds.—The diamonds mounted on sticks are next taken by the cutter, whose hands are encased in leather gloves. He has in front of him a small box about 5in. by 5in. by 10in. Making the two sides a lever for his sticks he commences rubbing the two stones together, and thus abrading them, which is accompanied by a sharp sound and a vibration of the table indicative of great force necessary in the operation. The dust falls into the box through a small false bottom sieve by which the particles of cement are separated from the diamond dust, the latter being used in the process of polishing upon the mills. During the operation the cutter from time to time brushes off the adherent dust with a camel-hair brush, and watches the progress of cutting. Machinery of various patterns has been introduced for the purpose of cutting, but it is questionable if this operation does not require a brain to guide it.

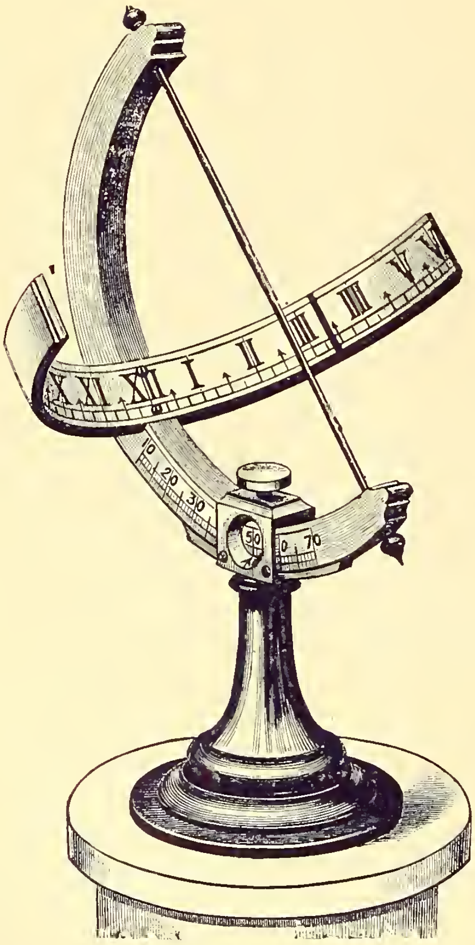
Finishing and Polishing.—The stones are now placed upon the mill, not held by the hand resting against an upright at a definite angle, as with other gems, but are put into a kind of iron dog which stretches over the face of the mill. The stone is set at the desired angle, and the dog is weighted as requisite, and kept from flying off the mill by upright supports. The mills are of iron and about a foot in diameter, and, after having been properly faced with tangential and concentric lines, and the diamond powder applied with oil, are revolved at a high speed. In Messrs, Ford and Wright's steam mills, the power is carried by shafting under the floors. Upon reaching each long bench circular endless ropes rise invisibly from below, passing under the top of the benches, and return again at the same end they enter, crossing as they pass each mill. The mills revolve at a rate of 2,000 per minute, with such a perfect ease and freedom that were it not from the familiar ring of the mills the place would be quite silent. The view shows the interior of Messrs. Ford and Wright's, which is the best equipped factory in the country and probably one of the best in the world. The factory was built, and the modern machinery designed and put into going order by Sir Henry Bessemer, the eminent scientist and engineer of steel-producing fame.

There are other factories in London, but none could be expected to vie with the inventive genius of the great iron-adamantiser.

Things New or Noteworthy

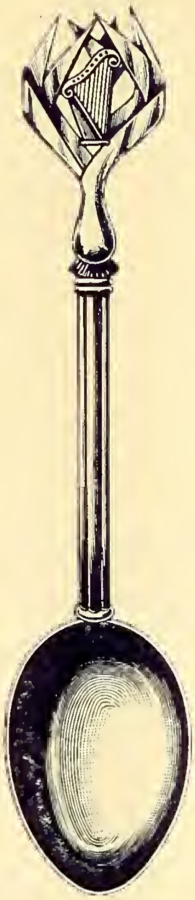
New Adjustable Sun-dial.

WE are all familiar with the incident of taking a lantern up to the sun-dial at night to see the time, and have all come across people who think the magnetic needle points in the same direction all over the world; and there are very many people who consider a sun-dial just as universal, and that the unaltering instrument would tell the time in any part of the globe, as was evinced some two or three years ago, when everybody was writing on the watch as a compass. Messrs. Francis Barker and Son, of compass and sun-dial fame, have recently brought out a new half globe sun-dial, which will be seen upon reference to the illustration here given to be easily adjustable to any latitude, an important principle heretofore usually neglected, and when the latter is the case, to obtain correct time necessitates calculations which we fear few understand. Hence the new sun-dial, all things considered, is one for which we may expect a good sale.



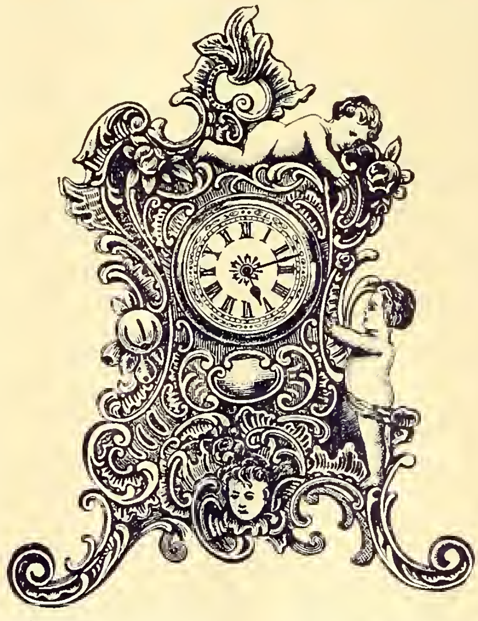
New "Souvenir" Spoon.

MESSRS. AHRONSBERG BROS., of Albion-street, Birmingham, have introduced a novelty in the form of a Welsh Souvenir Spoon, the design consisting of a Welsh harp, encircled with the leaves of the leek, the latter seemingly growing out of the handle. It should meet with a ready demand, as hitherto the "land of the bard" has been very much overlooked in this matter. This spoon presents a very pleasing appearance, being made in different colors of enamel. It is surprising the hold these souvenir spoons appear to have taken, and the number that have been produced; but it is still more surprising that the needs of a people so patriotic and hospitable as the Welsh should not have been catered for before. We have also to call attention to the new price list which this very enterprising firm have just issued: as a reference for repairs of every description, it is well worthy of a place in every jeweler's establishment—the style of its publication certainly does the firm much credit.



An Artistic Silver Clock.

WE herewith give an illustration of a very artistic silver clock, something out of the usual run of things, and one which ought to command a good sale. It is one of the latest introductions of Messrs. H. J. Cooper and Co., Thavies-inn, E.C., and all will admit that, although last, it is by no means least. All who have any sale for small silver articles suitable for handsome presents or for the boudoir will probably find in this charming little novelty one that will be favorably received.



ROBERT PRINGLE & CO.

For Electro-Plated Spoons and Forks.

R & P Co
REGISTERED TRADE MARK

ALL the best Qualities and Sizes in Stock, ready for immediate delivery. Sample Rolls lent for Customer's use in taking orders. When requiring the above and before placing orders elsewhere send for R. P. & Co.'s Spoon and Fork Lists, and compare price and finish with those of any other reliable House. R. P. & Co.'s Spoons and Forks have been known on the Market for over a quarter of a Century, and are second to none; they will give no trouble to those dealing in them, but are warranted to wear well for years.

ROBERT PRINGLE & CO., Manufacturers, Wilderness Works, 40 & 42, Clerkenwell Rd., London, E.C.

ESTABLISHED 1835.

ADOLPH SCOTT,

Manufacturing Jeweler

And IMPORTER of

WATCHES, CLOCKS, OPTICAL

AND

Fancy Goods

Of every Description

SEND FOR PRICE LIST—

49, Vyse Street, BIRMINGHAM.

LOWEST PRICES.

Appro. Parcels

FOR

Selection at LIST PRICES.

Particular attention given to repairs of every description, and turned out in first-class style at lowest prices.

Special Quotations for Large Quantities.

T. M. WHITTON & SONS,

12, 13, 14, 15, & 24, ST. JOHN'S LANE, CLERKENWELL, LONDON,

Importers and General Factors.

Clocks, Watches, Gold and Silver Jewelry. All kinds of Fancy Goods. Watch and Clockmakers' Materials.

Watch Glasses, Main Springs, Hands, Watch and Clock Oil. Paste, Steel, and Jet Brooches and Earrings. Silk, Horn, Vulcanite, Steel, and Black Bead Alberts. Spectacles, Eye-Glasses, Reading Glasses. Table Cutlery.

THE MANUFACTURERS' WHOLESALE HOUSE FOR—

Walton's Specialities, Jones' Castle Links, Collapsible Drinking Cup, Mexican Silver Alberts.

N. C. Reading's Albo-Silver Chains and Jewelry, Birch's Keys, Dorcas Thimbles, the Gripper Thimble. Barrett's Coin Mounts. All other Coin Mounts. Progress Screws. British United Clocks.

E. P. Tea Sets, Salad Bowls, Liqueur Frames, Cruets, Sugars, Inkstands, Biscuits, Prize Cups, Nickel Silver and E. P. Spoons and Forks, Fish Eaters, Dessert Sets, Fish Carvers.

BROOCHES, EARRINGS, STUDS, SPECTACLES, JEWELRY, &c.

HAVING NO TRAVELLERS WE INVITE YOU TO CALL OR SEND AND COMPARE OUR PRICES.

Telegraphic Address: "Retract, Birmingham."

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CARTER AND CO., 89, VYSE STREET,
BIRMINGHAM,

Wholesale and Manufacturing Jewelers,

The A1 Jobbing House of Birmingham.

THE "ROBIN" JOBBING CALENDAR, Most complete list in the trade. Sent post free on application.

REPAIRS AND APPRO. have immediate attention.

CARTER is the Man for JOBBING. Trial only Solicited.

JAMES RICHARDSON

WHOLESALE

Watch Manufacturer,

CARLTON HOUSE,
HOLYHEAD ROAD,
COVENTRY.

REGISTERED TRADE MARK.

J. W. REELEY & SONS
LONDON & LIVERPOOL

ESTABD. 1790

Specialities in ¾-Plate Centre Seconds, Keyless and Non-Keyless, Escapement on Ends, and Brequet Spring.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES ALWAYS IN STOCK.

FATTORINI & SONS

New Patent Early Bird 8 Day

ELECTRIC ALARUM.

The only 8 Day Electric Alarum in the World.

There is no fixing of wires, and it can be placed anywhere like an ordinary Clock. Will not stop ringing until you get up and turn off the switch.

Retail Price, 30/-

Dry Battery can be sent to any part of the World.

FATTORINI AND SONS

THE CHEAPEST WHOLESALE HOUSE in the Country for High-class

WALTHAM WATCHES.

The Trade supplied at the Lowest

WHOLESALE PRICES.

Finest Vienna Regulators

The Best in the Trade, delivered Carriage Free from the factory direct.

New Designs in Marble, Onyx, & other Clocks.

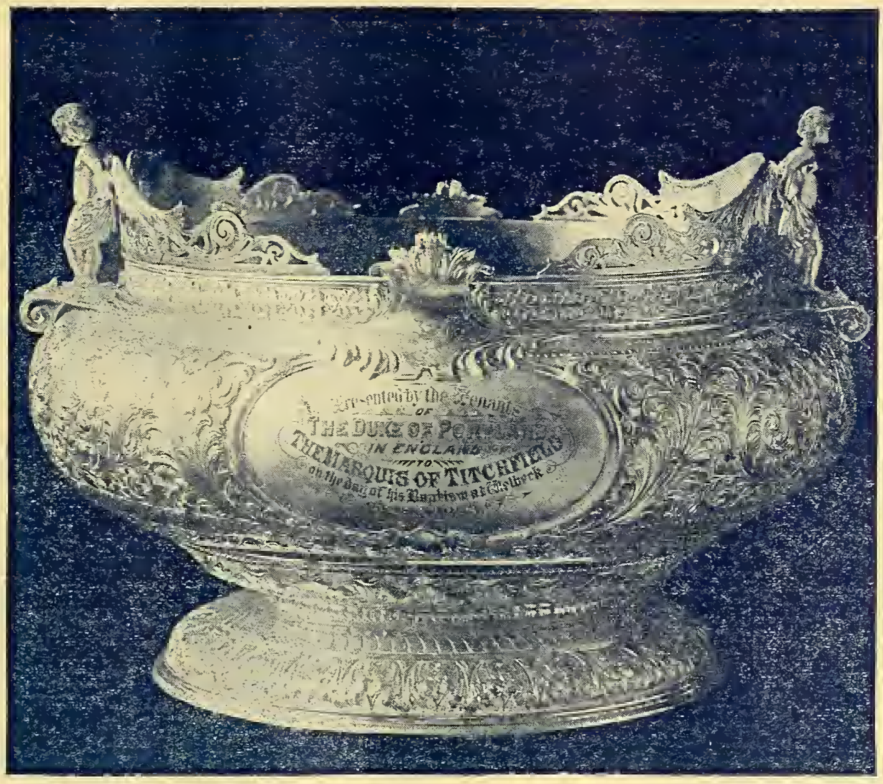
27, KIRKGATE,
27, WESTGATE, **BRADFORD.**

What English Silversmiths Can Do.

IN his last month's Sheffield Notes, our special correspondent alluded to the remarkable bowl presented to the Marquis of Titchfield, the infant son of the Duke of Portland, on the occasion of his christening at Welbeck Abbey. We now give an illustration of this magnificent specimen of the silversmith's art. Unfortunately, it is taken from a very badly executed photo, which was taken in the factory in a great hurry, under adverse circumstances. But when it is said that from the receipt of the order to the delivery of the bowl only 18 working days elapsed, that the beautiful artistic production is five and a-half feet in girth, weighing 358 ounces, some idea of the capabilities of Messrs. Atkin Bros. can be formed. We hear that recently a catalogue of the plate in the Portland family has been made, but we question whether there are very many pieces that will stand before this, although there are some upon which the greatest artists that have ever lived have been engaged.

Further Improvements in Telescopes.

A NEW "shortened telescope," has been constructed by Dr. R. Steinheil. In principle it is similar to the telephotographic objectives recently produced by Dallmeyer and Steinheil; to which attention was called some time back. By the introduction of a negative system between the eyepiece and the objective the focal length is greatly increased. The figures of a telescope constructed upon this principle are given as follows:—Focal length of object glass 16·2 cm.; distance from nearest surface of negative lens 12 cm.; equivalent focal length, 60·8 cm.; total length, 27·8 cm. The magnification was thus three and three-quarter times that obtained by using the objective alone. The obtained magnification was 22 diameters, with an effective aperture of 4 cm. and a 1 in. eye-piece. To obtain the same magnification and illumination by a long focus objective would require a length of 60·8 cm.


Presented by the Tenants
OF
THE DUKE OF PORTLAND
IN ENGLAND
TO
THE MARQUIS OF TITCHFIELD
on the day of his Baptism at Welbeck

THE TITCHFIELD BOWL.

Wedding Rings.

THERE are some people—not jewelers worthy of the name of course—who think that a bit of gold knocked up anyhow, as a sailor does a shilling on a marlinspike, constitutes a wedding ring, and yet how wrong it is to slight this, the most treasured of all jewels by every lady in the land. Although these nuptial yokes are only plain gold there is much more in a well-made wedding ring than some ordinary business minds realise. The better class customers are frequently extremely fastidious over the ring which once on will never be removed, but will be a companion to each of the wearer's ring-treasures. It might be considered that the question of alloying was a very minor one, as there are only two parts to deal with, but when one looks at a shovel full of sovereigns one soon realises the diversity of hues in which it is possible to have twenty-two carat gold. The fact is, wedding rings to be all that is desired should be a speciality of a maker, such as Mr. S. Hope, 126, Vyse-street, Birmingham. There are many other advantages in dealing with a firm of this description; one can always depend upon a large stock for selection, a good assortment of sizes and widths, and the probability of an out-of-the-way order being met without delay.

Messrs. Hammond Creake and Co.

NO one can help noticing the great increase of late years in the beautiful oak mounted goods that are not only in silversmiths' stocks, but in extensive use in society. For a long time these were made by the ordinary silversmiths or electroplate workers, who were dependent upon little masters for the wood-work. With their increased demand it became evident that to produce these things as economically and well as possible, one ought to devote oneself entirely to the task. This was done by Hammond, Creake, and Co., St. Mary's-road, Sheffield, and since that time patterns have been multiplying, and business has been increasing, until an immense manufactory has developed, devoted exclusively to the production of these oak mounted goods. In this progress many new methods have been discovered, thousands of ideas evolved, until to-day perhaps nowhere in the world can such a fine and varied selection of this class of goods be found as at the warehouses of Messrs. Hammond, Creake, and Co. The goods are mounted with the sterling metal, E.P., and nickel. All woods used are seasoned by the firm, who are thereby able to guarantee their standing. These all-important features are unattainable under any other system of production.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

To the Editor of the Watchmaker, Jeweler, Silversmith, and Optician.

Made in Switzerland.

Sir,—Is any one watch supposed, according to law, to bear the country in full across the cases? Say, for instance, a watch made in Switzerland marked thus, ·800, with the hall mark game cock on cases. Is this sufficient, or should it be written, "Made in Switzerland"? I've seen this watch advertised greatly. I thought by the reading of the advertisement it would be an English-made watch, but on having it examined I find it to be of Swiss make. I've written to the manufacturer to know if English or foreign made; he replied saying it was made in Switzerland especially for him, "finally examined and timed by my men here."—J. S., Dorchester.

[We thought that this point was well known to everyone in the trade. If the foreign hall mark had been sufficient, what need would there have been of the Merchandise Marks Acts? The place of origin should appear legibly on the watch in the words "Made in Switzerland." As your letter was addressed inside to the Jewelers' Association, Birmingham, we forwarded it to them, but they returned it to us, as you are not a member of the association.—Ed.]

Watchmakers' Certificates.

W. Robertson.—In reply to yours on the above subject we have had the particulars posted on to you.

Repairing China.

H.D. asks: Can any of your readers explain the method of repairing china by means of boiled milk? What other ingredients are used—in short, the whole process?

Reversed Coil Spring.

Sir,—Might I inquire through your columns if it is a fact that the Coventry Watch Manufacturers are adopting a new reversed coil mainspring in their going-barrel Levers? If so, what advantage is claimed for them over a good Waltham Lever, in which the ordinary spring is used with excellent results?—Ernest.

Our Special Edition.

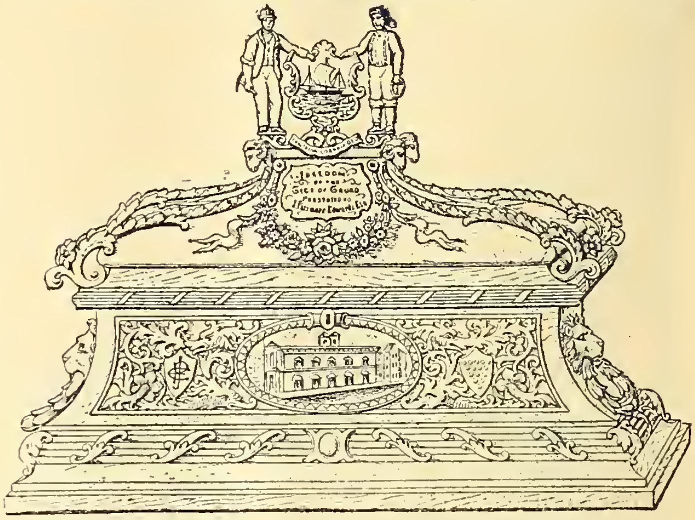
The Editor begs to thank his numerous readers for the very kindly letters received from so many quarters, and assures those correspondents who consider the Special Number has "licked creation," "excelled itself," "stands out from the rest of trade journals," etc., etc., that it is the intention to maintain this journal at a standard fully worthy of the trade.

Whitfield and Co.

"Safe bind safe find" is an adage with which few would feel disposed to disagree, yet somehow or other men often find to their irreparable loss that while agreeing with it they have not realised its importance. A burglarious entry of premises is made, or it is a victim to fire, and loss sustained by either may never be overcome. The moment a thing is worth preserving it must have a place to be kept, the security of which should be proportioned to its value. There are few things more important to all members of the trade than a good safe, not only for their own goods, but for the safety of things belonging to other people which they may happen to have on approbation. For all this safety they rest entirely upon that production of engineering skill, commonly called a safe. But, then, all safes are not safe, so that one requires something more than a nominal safe to be able to lie comfortably at night satisfied as to the safety of the valuables. There are things sold under the name of safe which the crook could open in a few minutes, and others which would play the part of sarcophagus to the contents if the surrounding temperature should be raised to anything like that of burning wood. There are others again which defy all attempts of the most skilful crook, and laugh at the burning flames as they fall through them to *terra firma* several storeys lower down. Of this latter kind are those produced by Messrs. Whitfield and Co., Oxford-street, Birmingham, as can be proven by the records which these indispensable protectors have won from firms whose premises have been reduced to ashes or made the victims of the burglar's skill. Our advice to all is invest in a good safe. Fast bind if you would fast find.

Casket by Messrs. John Round and Son.

On June 6th the freedom of the city of Truro was presented to Mr. J. Passmore Edwards, in a handsome casket made for the Corporation by Messrs. John Round and Son, Sheffield. The casket (of which we give a representation) is of oak from old St. Mary's Church and the old Truro grammar school, and is mounted in solid silver. The front panel contains a view of the municipal buildings; and on either side, the county arms and Mr. Passmore Edwards' monogram. The back panel contains a view of Perranporth, where Mr. Edwards has erected a convalescent home for the benefit of the county. On either side of the lid are exact copies in silver of the city maces and the oars, symbolical of the Mayor's authority over the port. On the other sides there are lions' heads with silver handles. The whole is surmounted with the city and county arms enameled in natural colors.



Goldsmiths' and Jewelers' Trade Society.

The London Society of Goldsmiths and Jewelers held a general meeting on the 12th ult., at the Club, Union Buildings, Clerkenwell-road, Mr. Dixon in the chair, with the object of adopting the rules. After the usual preliminaries Mr. Lowen, the general secretary, read the report and balance-sheet, the former stating that among other good work the secretary had done, was the important one of finding work for their unemployed members. As a matter of encouragement it was stated that the society had been written to by employers in want of workmen, and that suitable men from their Union had filled the vacancies. The balance-sheet was healthy, as it showed a balance to credit after all outgoings of £150. The meeting then considered and adopted the rules submitted by the committee, with one exception, which was amended and agreed to. A vote of thanks to the committee for their able labors in this direction was carried unanimously, and the election of delegates deferred, it being deemed that such an important election should be by ballot. A vote of thanks to the chairman was unanimously accorded, and the highly interesting meeting closed.

Dundee Royal Casket.—A meeting of the Special Committee of Dundee Town Council, appointed to consider and select a design for the casket in which the addresses to the Duke of York and the Princess May are to be enclosed, have decided that the design submitted by Mr. James Rattray, jeweler, Nethergate, Dundee, should be accepted. The casket is to be made of 18-carat gold, weighing fully 18 ounces, and measuring over all 8 inches long and 5½ inches high. The top will be surmounted with the Dundee coat of arms. In front of the lid are to be shown the Royal arms, and at each side of the lid there will appear a portrait of the Duke of York and the Princess May. The centre panel is to be filled in with a picture of the Art Galleries and Free Library. The narrow panels on each side are to be filled in with ornamental scroll work, and the end panels will show pictures of the Royal Arch and the Old Steeple. The border of the base is to be beautifully chased, and will rest on four neatly chased scroll feet.

Advance Aluminum!—Yet another use for the light metal has been successfully shown by a Cincinnati musical instrument maker, who has constructed a violin of aluminum. The instrument has recently been submitted to public tests, and experts express perfect satisfaction with the tone given out, and assert that it compares favorably with old Cremona productions. We do not know if pure aluminum was employed; if so, it is not quite so sonorous as when alloyed to a small extent with titanium. This cannot fail to decrease the weight of the "speaking instrument," and, considering the price of metal, to put in the reach of every plier of the bow a fine toned instrument at a moderate figure, and offer a new line of industry to the workers of the metal.

PAUL JEANNOT,

ESTABLISHED 1835.

WATCH MANUFACTURER,

For Wholesale and for Exportation Only.

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Steam Factory, **CHAUX-DE-FONDS** } **SWITZERLAND.**

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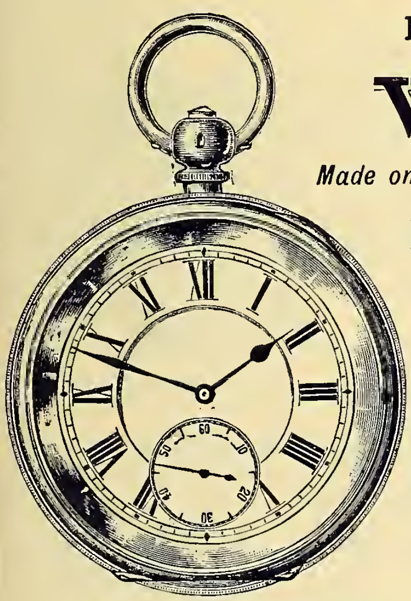
PAUL JEANNOT'S

Celebrated **"Kew Observatory"** Certificated



Double Roller Straight-Line Lever

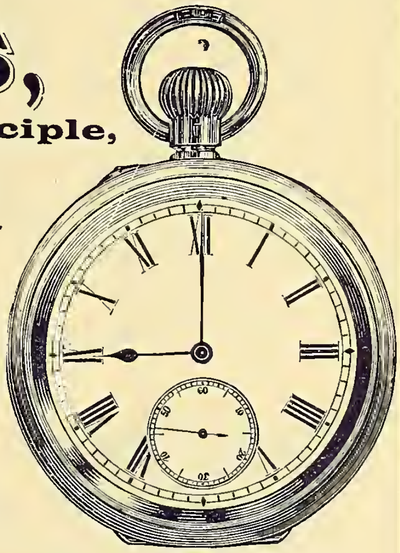
WATCHES,

Made on the **Interchangeable Principle,**

IN NICKEL, STEEL, SILVER, AND GOLD CASES

Keyless and Key-Winding.

Sold at Prices of Ordinary Watches.



This is a DOUBLE ROLLER STRAIGHT-LINE LEVER, Brequet Spring, Compensated Balance, Adjusted to all Climates, Temperatures, Isochronism, and Positions.

The Watches are supplied with or without KEW OBSERVATORY CERTIFICATES. If without, they are accompanied by a Certificate of my Rating Department, where every Watch before leaving the Factory has to undergo tests as severe as those applied to Watches passing through the ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

Paul Jeannot *has at last succeeded in supplying* **Adjusted Watches** *at the* **Prices of Ordinary Watches. A WONDERFUL AND INVALUABLE RESULT,** *not obtained by any other Firm or Manufacturer.*

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NOVELTIES IN Trays, Baskets, Thermometers, Cigarette and Cigar Cases, Match Boxes, Match Cases, Purses, Scent Bottles, Thimbles, Penholders, Inkstands, Cruets, Brooches, Bracelets, Chains, Hair Pins, Flower Vases, Work Boxes, Hair Brushes, Combs, Paper Stands, Watch Stands, Butter Dishes, Paper Knives, Napkin Rings, Clocks, &c., &c. ?

CHEAP. EVERLASTING WEAR. DOES NOT TARNISH. Is a PURE METAL. Suitable for endless purposes. Chaste and beautiful in appearance. Recommended for Export.

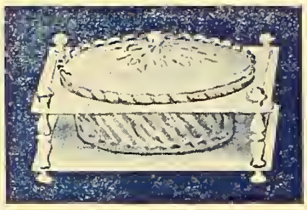
Cups, 431, 432, 433.

Scent Basket, 218.

Mirror, 326.

Mirror, 319.

442, 441, 103, 105.


Butter Dish, 538.

Napkin Rings, 448.

R R R
235. 236. 240

Champagne Set, 541.

Tray 171.

Flower Vases.

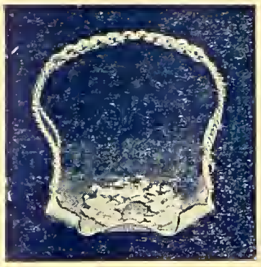
Liqueur Set, 540.

Watch Stand, 271.

Puff Stand, 536.

Photo Frame, 276.

Crumb and Tray Brush, 377½.


Basket, 206.

Tray, 172.

The Aluminium Fabric Company, Manufactory and Show-Rooms, **83, Vyse St., Birmingham.**

AN INSPECTION IS INVITED. AGENTS WANTED.

Tickets and Ticket Writing.

By the Editor.

(Continued from page 261.)

Obtaining a Mat Surface.—Having applied the gold, a piece of glazed paper should next be laid over it, and the burnisher rubbed over the surface of the paper. This process rubs the particles of gold evenly over the surface without burnishing them, leaving them with a mat surface, a condition often desirable when a soft delicate effect is necessary.

Burnishing Gold.—After having obtained a good even mat surface of gold, the burnisher may be applied directly to the metal. Care must be taken not to rub it long in one place, but rather to go all over it several times, until an even lustre of desired brightness is obtained. During the process the burnisher may occasionally be made to touch the hair (if not too greasy), which lubricates the work and prevents tearing or destroying the surface.

Outlining Letters.—It will be found almost invariably that it is necessary to outline or surround a gold letter by a line of black, blue, or some other color. In the case of a mat surface letter this should not be done until the surface has been made. In the case of a burnished letter, the latter process should be gone through first, as it is practically impossible to burnish an outlined letter without smudging it and destroying the border, and thus instead of making the letter stand out more clearly and distinctly it has the very reverse effect. Moreover, the general appearance of the ticket is spoilt.

THE ROMAN ALPHABET.

Doubtless an article or two upon the origin and evolution of our alphabet would be interesting, but as this is hardly the place for it, we will content ourselves by observing that it has been derived by evolutionary modifications from the Egyptian hieroglyphics through the Phœnician, Western Greek, and Early Latin. In each of these save the first all the lines were of the same thickness, and the characters are often erroneously spoken of as "block" letters.

THESE ARE NOT "BLOCK" LETTERS BUT "EGYPTIAN."

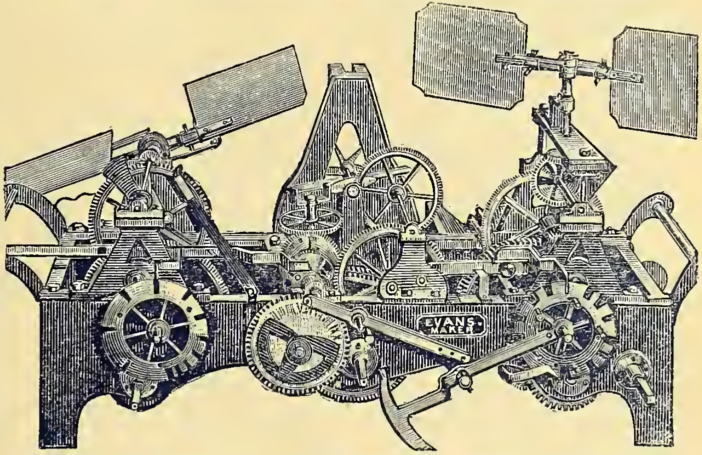
In the Roman alphabet as in use to-day, we see the result of further modifications, and the introduction of artistic ornamentation. Letters no longer resemble angular or bent pieces of flat wire, but alternate lines are thin and thick, and the curves increase and decrease in thickness with geometric precision. But while striving for the beautiful, the legible was not altogether ignored; and it was soon found that if a member of any letter be reduced to a mere line it requires some addition to render it more distinct; and for this purpose a foot and crown, or base and capital, technically called *serifs*, were added. In the ideal Roman letters these are mere lines of the same thickness as the thin lines of the letters; but the angularity of their union is modified by the addition of a graceful low curve. With the cultivation of Fine Art and the knowledge of gravitation we find there are several other little alterations necessary to secure symmetry and harmony of form, and a well balanced letter.

From the Roman and the Egyptian are derived all the various founts in use in this country to-day, all of which result from special modifications upon definite lines. We shall take the former characters as our standard, and subsequently explain the lines upon which each variety of letter is formed; but it will be necessary for us first to understand thoroughly the elements of these forms themselves before we can appreciate their modifications.

(To be continued.)

Messrs. W. F. Evans and Sons.

Too many old-established manufacturing firms that at one time and another gained world-wide reputations somehow seem to have dwindled away or become lost sight of altogether. It is gratifying to note that the opposite is the case with W. F. Evans and Sons, of the Soho Clock Factory, Birmingham, who are not only up to date, but in many things a long way ahead of most of their competitors. Clocks were undoubtedly clocks in our grandfathers' days, but, whatever may be said of their external beauty, they scarcely possessed such working merit as the Soho quarter chime clock, with Westminster chimes, gravity escapement, and compensation pendulum, of which we give an illustration. Messrs. Evans and Sons make every part of their clocks, including the casting, under personal supervision. It is with respect to church, chime, quarter, school, turret, railway, and such like clocks that Messrs. Evans and Sons so much excel, and their manufactures are now denoting the time for peoples all over the world. Many clocks of various descriptions made by W. F. Evans and Sons are being exhibited at the World's Fair, and as a matter of fact the firm do a very large trade with the United States. On paying them a visit the other day we noticed several most beautifully made clocks being packed for Chicago, and others for different parts of our Colonies. Our attention was bestowed on several grandfather clocks as they stood in one of the workshops ready for removal, having just been completed. Both with regard to mechanism and beautiful finish of the parts, as well as soundness and accuracy, it is difficult to imagine anything more perfect. Messrs. W. F. Evans and Sons evidently mean to maintain the prestige they have so worthily gained.



The Cost of Compensation Balances.—Some most interesting information has been recently given by Arthur Webster, of Waltham, in connection with remarks made by T. P. Smith, in the Coventry *Herald* last March, regarding balance making in America. In the article, Mr. Smith said a foreman in one of the factories told him that he could produce a balance for 2s. 2d., to which Mr. Webster replies: "Mr. Smith certainly did not ask a foreman of a factory where the American system was in its highest state of development, for, if he had, he would have been told that the cost of a balance did not exceed 7d., and I can guarantee that the cost has been reduced since Mr. Smith's visit, so that I think 6d. would cover the cost of manufacturing an expansion balance. I wish to call your attention, however, to the fact that a money comparison of cost of balances is not a correct way to measure the differences. It ought to be reduced to time, and it is a fact that 110 operatives can make 1,800 finished expansion balances, including the mean time and gold screws, in 10 hours. This means that one operative can make 16 balances per day of 10 hours." One wonders what some of our old friends of the last generation would say to these figures!

Gem Lore.—The following is receiving the attention of the knights of the scissors and pastepot. The Ceylon gem, cat's-eye, "is also found in the Herz Mountains, and in some parts of the United States, and is supposed by some to be a species of *silicified wood.* The cat's-eye is sometimes confounded by amateurs with certain beautiful *iridised* agates, which come from Arabia and Persia, and strongly resemble it," but the color of the agates is generally brighter, the cutting confines the *opalescent* streak of light to the centre. It is very rarely that so many absolutely false assertions are hashed up with such wrongly used scientific terms, compared with which Mrs. Partington's lingo was good English. It reminds us of a little incident that recently happened, where the Boniface of a small hotel near the Malverns apologised for his empty larder, upon the grounds that "the jolly logical fellows, as come down here to see the sun shadow some stones," had eaten all his provisions the previous day.

Diamond Field Notes

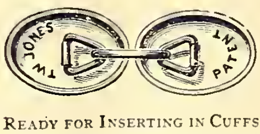
(By Our Own Correspondent.)

Kimberley, June, 1893.

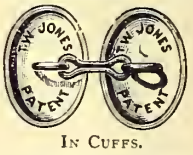
Your readers will probably not be best pleased to hear that the great combine have had recourse to further limitation of production, and an undertaking not to sell at a lower figure. Recently I sent you word that their output was running up to over 100,000 carats per week. Now, however, they have restricted it to 80,000 carats, with a promise that it shall not be increased or the prices of the rough material lowered. It is marvellous how one great combine should be able to work the prices of goods which pass into the hands of so many, and if only half as much unity of action and recognition of mutual interests existed outside the pool as in, dealers capable of transacting business up to six figures would not be content to wait their turn to "see" a parcel large enough to meet their wants. Another fact which shows the probability of the retention of high prices is that the New Jagersfontein have sold out their product for the next three months at an increase of 12½ per cent. This company has now become an influential one, and second only to the De Beers; indeed the two companies are curiously bound together, some of the one board being also on the other, and among the latest rumors is the absorption of the former by the latter. In this I have no faith whatever, although the Jagersfontein has grown till its capital has reached a million sterling, and it has 19,000,000 loads of blue in sight. The average yield has risen during the last twelve months from 9·527 carats per 100 loads to 11·80. The cost of handling has also fallen from 2s. 8¾d. to 2s. 4½d. per load. During last year it hauled over 1,750,000 loads of diamondiferous material, and washed 1,500,000 loads; which yielded 172,020 carats of diamonds, realising £330,781, so that it will be seen that it is not without importance. Although this quantity is not much compared with over 4,000,000 of carats, still the quality of the Jagersfontein is much better than anything which can be produced by the De Beers. The company have recently had their annual meeting, and the manifesto of Messrs. Pam was attacked very bravely when there was practically no one there to defend it. Still there was, as I pointed out last month, something in it, and if its issuers are not now recognised as being prompted by the most disinterested objects, it cannot be denied that the manifesto has had its good effects, and that certain things existed which called for action. I hear this mine has recently produced another large diamond which will rank in the forefront of the great diamonds of the world. It is six carats heavier than the stone found in December, 1881, which is historically known as the "Jagersfontein," and is of a fine white color, weighing 215 carats. There are several New Rushes and reports of diamonds in many directions, extending the diamond bearing track north and south of the old mines. One of the New Rushes is situated between Kimberley Central Mine and Otto's Kopje. The latter, too, I might remark, is looking promising. I recently saw a parcel of 700 diamonds from it, and as soon as the proper machinery arrives I have no doubt I shall be able to report some good findings. The North East Bultfontein's output for the four weeks ended June 3rd was 58,500 loads, yielding 2,720 carats. Ward is still working the Wesselton, and the yield fully maintains or even increases; it is said that he is clearing at the rate of over £1,000 a day. The Klerksdorp Estate Company have sent eleven of the thirty-nine green diamonds found on their estate to the Standard Bank for exhibition, together with a piece of the matrix in which one was found. I think I told you that the matrix in this place was not the usual "blue," or even a river conglomerate of the modern age, but, to the great astonishment of the miner, it is the curious banket in which the gold of the Randt is found. This is extremely interesting, although not surprising to the geologist. The fact is, the banket has been formed by the destruction of one or more of the quartzites through which the diamond pipes burst, and in operation diamond pipes have suffered from the same fate, so that the precious gem now occurs as an accompanying pebble. In the Winburg district, Orange Free State, there are quite a group of mines—The Monastery, which, owing to litigation, has suspended operations for some time, but is now taken over by a powerful syndicate—Bethel, Carmel, and a little further to the north-west, Dreekopjes. It is the last which has recently caused a great sensation from the fact that Mr. I. B. Robinson has not only taken over its management, but has invested £25,000 in it. He has had great experience, and his connection with the De Beers gives great weight to his opinion, which is very sanguine as to the wealth of the mine. How this will turn out remains to be seen; at any rate, they have commenced to sink a shaft towards the blue, even before stopping to assay the yellow very much. The company was formed to work it at Johannesburg with a capital of £100,000. Another near property, the Ruby, has been capitalised, and is under the management of Mr. W. Murray, late manager of the New Jagersfontein. At Rustenberg, forty miles north of the Vaal, two promising Kopjes have been acquired. It is, after all, perhaps, the River diggings that are commanding the greatest attention at the present moment, good finds being reported from many localities. At Loraville, near Hebron, 400 claims have been pegged off, and some good diamonds from 13½ carats downwards have been found. At Barkly West a fine gem of 40 carats has been discovered. At last the River diggers are likely to band together for legislative purposes, so as to stop the I. D. B-ing, which is their *bete noire.*

Mr. T. Walter Jones.

When Mr. T. Walter Jones, Hilton-street, Birmingham, read of that bishop who said he considered any man would be forgiven for swearing over his cuff links, he very justly remarked that the right reverend prelate was one of those who had not yet seen the "Castle" link; for had he have done so he would not have looked with such dread upon the fastening of his cuffs.



Ready for Inserting in Cuffs.



In Cuffs.

We are pleased to say that we are one of the many in the trade, and of the thousands of the public, who endorse to the fullest extent Mr. Jones's claim; for by this simple contrivance the maximum amount of ease and strength is secured with the least possible trouble. Very often patents are best understood and appreciated by their inventors, but the "Castle" is so simple and yet effective and lasting that it is sure to prove a stronghold against at least some of the enemies which daily wage war against the perturbability of human tempers.

New Tower Clock for Bridgetown Church.—Mr. and Mrs. Monteith, formerly residents in Bridgetown, have offered to pay for a three-faced timekeeper for the above church on condition that the public subscribe for the cost of fixing. As they have already in hand some £10, with which they do not know what to do, and as several influential gentlemen have offered further subscriptions, the inhabitants will soon be in possession of a public clock.

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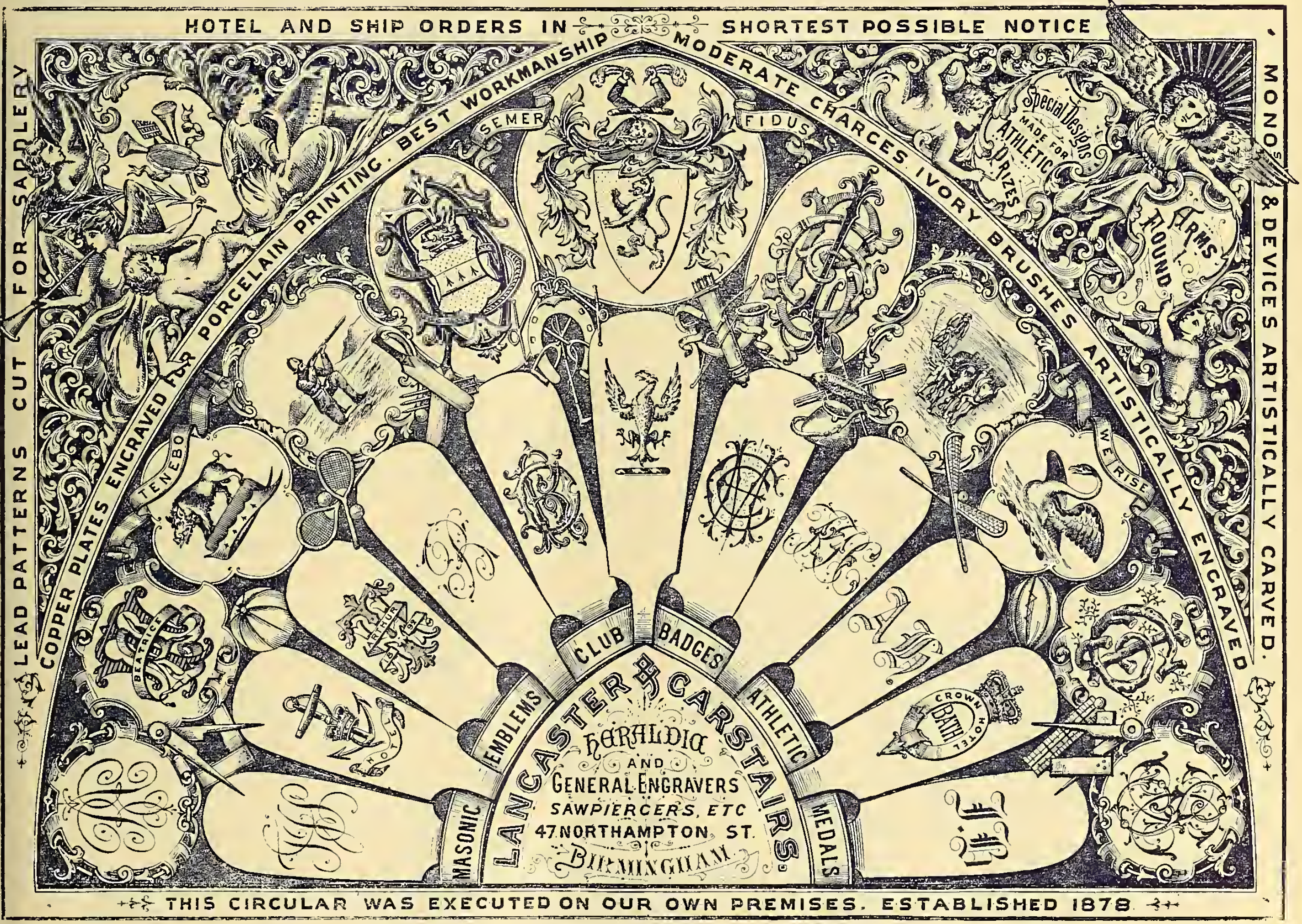

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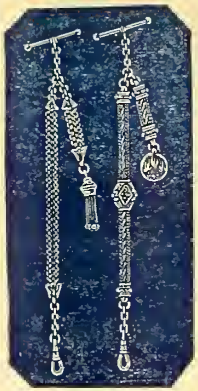

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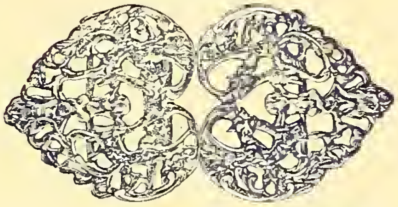

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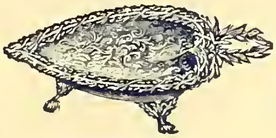

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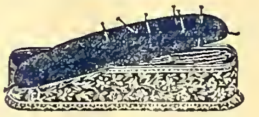

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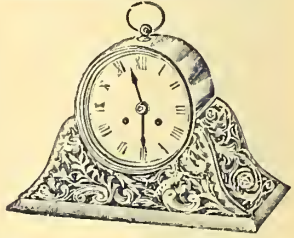

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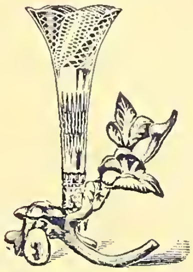

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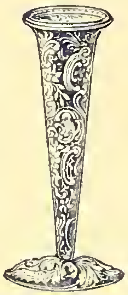

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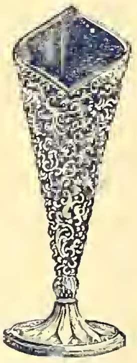

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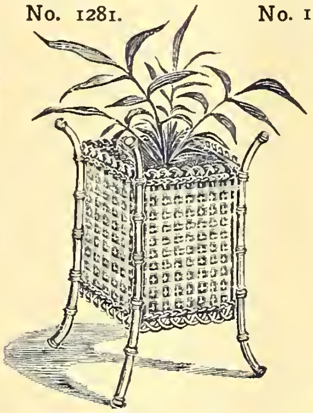

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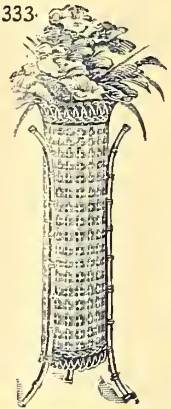

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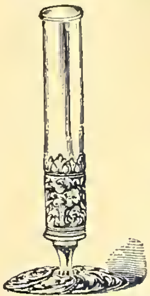

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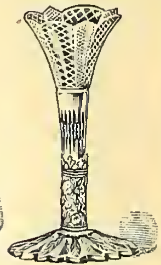

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Borneo Diamonds.

Efforts have been made to float a company to work the diamondiferous river deposits of the Landak River, one of the largest rivers in Western Borneo, and one that has furnished a few diamonds during the last two centuries. Indeed, most of the Borneo diamonds have been derived from this locality. It is a great pity that when a company of this sort is about to start it does not get someone to edit its prospectus who at least knows something of the subject. Thus, one of the baits held out by the company is that "one of the largest diamonds in the world—the Mattam—was obtained in the mines at Landak about a century ago." In another place the property is spoken of as the most valuable diamond mine in the world after Golconda, while yet again it is said, "diamonds are found all over the land as if scattered broadcast by some volcanic agency." One would have thought that everyone knew that the Mattam pebble was not a diamond, and that Golconda is not, and never was, a diamond mine; nor did anyone ever hear of a volcano distributing diamonds in the form of volcanic dust! Such prospectus baits as these are enough to condemn the soundest affair ever submitted to the public.

Burma Amber.

For some time there have been reports—probably exaggerated in proportion to the length of their long sea voyage—of the amber mines of Burma. Marvelous pictures have been drawn of the beauty of this material, and extraordinary tales have been told of its profuse occurrence. Until recently we were unable to form a true opinion of it, but good specimens having been obtained by Drs. Noetling and Helm, it now turns out to be a fossil resin and not an amber (succinite) proper. This new species has been separated out under the name of Burmite; it is rather harder than amber and is usually some variety of red or brown in color. When cut *en cabochon* and the flat face turned upwards, it is described as a really gorgeous ornamental stone.

The Broken Hill Silver Deposits.

The attention of the mining world has recently been drawn to these unique mines by Messrs. Jamieson and Howell, who not only dilate upon their marvelous production, but amongst other things point out the nature of the products and how they are disposed of. They note the facts that during the past seven years silver and lead to the value of eight and a-quarter millions sterling have been produced; that at present about two hundred and twenty thousand ounces of silver and seven hundred tons of lead are being turned out per week by this wonderful property. With such an influx of silver as this upon the market one need not feel surprised at its low figure, and were it not that all manufucturers are working so much more in the solid metal than formerly, and the American absorption, we might reasonably expect to find the precious white metal at even a lower price. The silver is made up into parcels in New South Wales of one hundred to one hundred and fifty thousand ounces and sold to the Australian banks, who, oddly enough, appear to be able to pay a trifle over London current prices. The precious ore also carries about three and a-half pennyweights of gold to the ton, which is recovered in the refinery. Formerly the whole of the lead was sent to England, but China has gradually grown to be the larger buyer of the two countries.

Discovery of Quicksilver in San Francisco.

Recently, while excavating for a cellar in the heart of the city of San Francisco, the workmen were surprised by the redness of the rock, which, upon further examination, turned out to be nothing less than cinnabar, the ore from which mercury is usually obtained. The thoughts of a cellar were immediately abandoned and the excavation, denominated the "City Mine," was further proceeded with, to the intense excitement of the whole of 'Frisco. Of course it must be borne in mind that many veins of this material have been opened out in various parts of California, but have not proved of sufficient extent to pay for working; a fate which may, or may not, await the 'Frisco discovery.

Pearl Fishing in Ireland.

It is many years since the pearl fishing industry has been prosecuted in the Emerald Isle to any great extent, although it has supplied some quite historic gems. Within the last year or two—perhaps since the impetus given by the North American pearl fishers—this occupation has been followed more regularly, with good results; so much so that companies have been formed to work some of the rivers. Last month the searchers were rewarded by the discovery of a gem weighing twenty-one grains, which was of such a quality as to induce its owners to ask the modest sum of one hundred pounds for it.

The Scotch Pearl Fisheries.

"Another injustice to Ireland," as the Hibernian observed when told that Dublin time was twenty-five minutes behind that of Greenwich. As soon as the silvery streams of the Dimeragh and Comaran were supplying these gems of the water, the rivers of Scotland began to try and out-do them. But the fact is, for very many years, almost since the time of Unger, the pearl fishery has been more or less pursued in various parts of Scotland. Recently the river Don yielded to George Macdonald a ten-grain gem which is said to be by far the best that has been discovered for many years.

Discovery of a New Pearl Fishery in Ceylon.

Important news reached Colombo recently with regard to Captain Donnan's trip to the pearl banks. After having made a very careful examination of the banks last fished, and of others fished in previous years, Captain Donnan most unexpectedly came across a large deposit of young "oysters" on the famous Cheval Paar. The "oysters" on examination proved to be about a year old, and, though young, are said to be extremely healthy and plentiful. Careful examination was made of the bank, samples of "oysters" being raised in several directions, and Captain Donnan is of opinion that in four years' time, that is to say in 1897, there should be another important fishery.

New Topazes from India.

The classic home of gems—India—has never been able to boast of many topazes, indeed, it has often been charged with never having produced them. The *Pioneer Mail* now announces that a topaz-bearing tract of country has been found in Madras, and that the gem gives promise of being in sufficient quantity to render the exploitation of the tract a commercial success. Whether it will either produce good topazes or even repay exploitation remains to be seen.

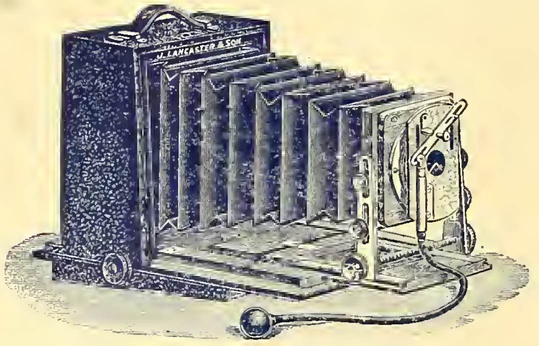
Mother-o'-Pearl Supply.

The Souakin Consul supplies some information which may be valuable in connection with the above. He remarks that he is afraid there will be little or no export from Souakin during the present year, as the crews of the dhows employed in the mother-o'-pearl fishery by the Zobeid Arabs from Djeddah and its neighborhood are largely made up of freed black slaves; but as an order was given during the winter, enforcing compulsory conscription of Soudanese for the Egyptian Army, the dhows have left the coast, lest their crews should be taken.

New Mayoral Chain for Falmouth.—Messrs. Mappin and Webb have recently executed a new mayoral chain and badge for the borough of Falmouth. In the centre of the badge are the borough arms and motto enamelled in colors, with the ancient and present arms of England above and below. Shield-shaped links, which form the receptacles for the names and dates of the holders of the office, are separated by ornamental links.

Messrs. J. Lancaster and Son.

MESSRS. J. LANCASTER AND SON, of Birmingham, have done much for photography, and the student of the art in every part of the world has to thank the house for the excellence of his pictures and the success of his snap-shots. Seeing that Messrs. Lancaster are selling over 20,000 cameras a year, little need be said in proof of the high estimate placed upon their manufactures. One or two of the firm's new patents, however, should be known to buyers. "Le Merveilleux," for instance, is a useful camera, made of mahogany, well framed together, with bellows body, making it very portable. The focusing slide is hinged and folds over on to the top of the camera when the dark slide is in. The slide reverses in an instant, so that a vertical or horizontal photo can be taken without moving any part of the camera. The lens is a meniscus achromatic one, giving excellent depth and covering the plate all over from corner to corner. "Le Meritoire" is another excellent apparatus. It has a lens in rackwork mount, which covers the plate clean and crisp from corner to corner. The camera has a double swing back and the slide reverses in an instant from vertical to horizontal. For getting true architectural lines the swing back and rising front are indispensable. "The Instantograph" is useful for all kinds of instantaneous work, whether pictures, portraits, groups, landscapes, architectural or engineering subjects. The lens is a most rapid type, and the apparatus, of which, by-the-way, over 40,000 have been sold, is pronounced the *sine quâ non* of the amateur photographer. "The Portable Instantograph" (here shewn) is a quite recent novelty, and has been made to satisfy a widely expressed desire for a compact folding camera, free from complication. It is a good camera in the smallest possible compass, made of mahogany, covered with leather, with rapid lens, patent see-saw shutter, and a light and portable stand. "The Pocket Instantograph" is excessively light, weighing only a few ounces, but at the same time it is strong and firm. "Lancaster's Ladies' Camera" folds up like a reticule and has been specially designed for the fair photographers. "The Boys' Own Set" is exactly adapted to boys at school, and the quality is guaranteed. "Lancaster's Pneumatic Shutter" is very good for any exposure from 100th of a second to any length of time. The cap on the right hand tube rotates to allow of either time or instantaneous exposure. Many other specialities we have not room to mention. Messrs. J. Lancaster and Son, it may be added, are in touch with merchants and shippers in all parts of the world, and buyers can also have full particulars on application direct to the firm.



J. LANCASTER & SON

St. Mark's Church, Wolverhampton.—The clock on the tower of this church has just had new illuminated dials fitted. They are each six feet diameter and glazed with white opal glass. Automatic clockwork apparatus has been attached to turn the gas up and down for the varying lengths of the days throughout the year. The work has been carried out for the Wolverhampton Corporation by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby.

OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

BURKITT, EDWIN ROBERT ANTHONY, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 8, VAUXHALL-TERRACE, SHERBECK, near BOSTON. A receiving order has been made, and the public examination of the debtor took place on the 28th ult. The deficiency is £64, and the unsecured debts amount to £98. The principal creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Griffiths, W., and Sons	Birmingham	38	0	0
Wattes, G. & F. E.	,,	24	9	6
Woolf, E. & Son	,,	15	13	3

CROUCH, JOSEPH MCGREGOR, *Jeweler*, 202, REGENT-STREET, LONDON. A receiving order was made on June 12th.

GILPIN, HENRY, (GILPIN AND CO. trading as) *Wholesale Jeweler*, 20, VYSE-STREET, BIRMINGHAM. The first meeting of creditors was held on the 16th ult. The financial statement showed —liabilities £1,029 3s. 7d., assets £467 19s. 2d. In his observations on the case the Official Receiver directs attention to the fact that in 1886 the debtor filed a petition in the Sheffield Court, with liabilities amounting to £1,391 16s. 5d., assets £555 5s. The estate realised £231 19s. 8d., and dividends amounting to 1s. 4½d. per £ were paid. "He has not," the Official Receiver adds, "been discharged from those proceedings. The bankrupt then removed to Birmingham, and commenced, in August, 1886, at 9, Augusta-street, Birmingham, as a wholesale jeweler, and traded under the name of Gilpin and Co. He had no capital, but he informs me that at first he obtained the necessary goods he required on approbation, and afterwards had no difficulty in obtaining credit." A deed of assignment was executed on May 18th, and a private meeting of creditors held on the following day. The statement submitted disclosed liabilities £1,292 13s. 1d., assets £583 15s. The creditors preferred the estate being dealt with in bankruptcy. The insolvency is attributed to bad debts, paying interest on borrowed money, and serious illness of debtor and family. The Assistant Official Receiver informed the meeting that the facts of the case had been submitted to the Board of Trade, who had replied that it was the duty of the Official Receiver at Sheffield to take action. Accordingly he had communicated with Sheffield. A trustee and committee of inspection were appointed. The public examination is fixed for July 3rd, at the Birmingham County-court. Among the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Brockington, A. G.	Birmingham	23	11	5
Clarke and Son	,,	24	18	0
Forrester Bros.	,,	22	12	11
Griffiths, A. G.	,,	22	13	3
Glover and Wiggin	,,	27	13	9
Jones, R.	,,	27	13	7
Johnson, B.	,,	21	19	9
Mills, William	,,	20	13	9
Olliver, W.	,,	32	18	8
Payton, F. W.	,,	34	10	0
Patterson and Co.	,,	37	16	3
Smith, A. J.	,,	30	2	9
Tabberner, W.	,,	44	13	5
Wakefield Bros.	,,	23	4	7
Wall, John	,,	29	18	7
Durban and Co.	Northampton	223	0	0

SANDEMAN, JACOB, *Jeweler*, formerly 47, BOLD-STREET, LIVERPOOL. A largely-attended meeting of the creditors was held at the offices of the Wholesale Traders' Association, Birmingham, on the 5th ult. The statement of affairs, prepared by Messrs. Poppleton and Appleby, accountants to the Association, at the request of the principal creditors, showed that the liabilities were: Unsecured creditors — trade £4,635 0s. 4d., cash about £800 ; total, £5,435 0s. 4d. The assets were : Stock-in-trade at cost £638 4s. 3d., fixtures and fittings £150—£788 4s. 3d. ; less preferential claims £60—£728 4s. 3d. ; deficiency £4,706 16s. 1d. ; total £5,435 0s. 4d. It transpired that the debtor had only been in business some seven months, during which time he had contracted the liabilities mentioned above. The debtor attributed his position to extravagant living, gambling, etc. The position of affairs was such that the creditors passed resolutions that the debtor should immediately be made bankrupt, and nominated Mr. G. Graham Poppleton, chartered accountant, Birmingham, as trustee, with a committee of five of the principal creditors. As the meeting was of opinion that proceedings should be taken with a view of obtaining a prosecution, the debtor was arrested and removed to Liverpool. (See "In and Out the Courts.")

SILVER MEDAL **USHER & COLE,** PARIS, 1889.
Chronometer and Watch Makers to the Admiralty,
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Manufacturers of London-made
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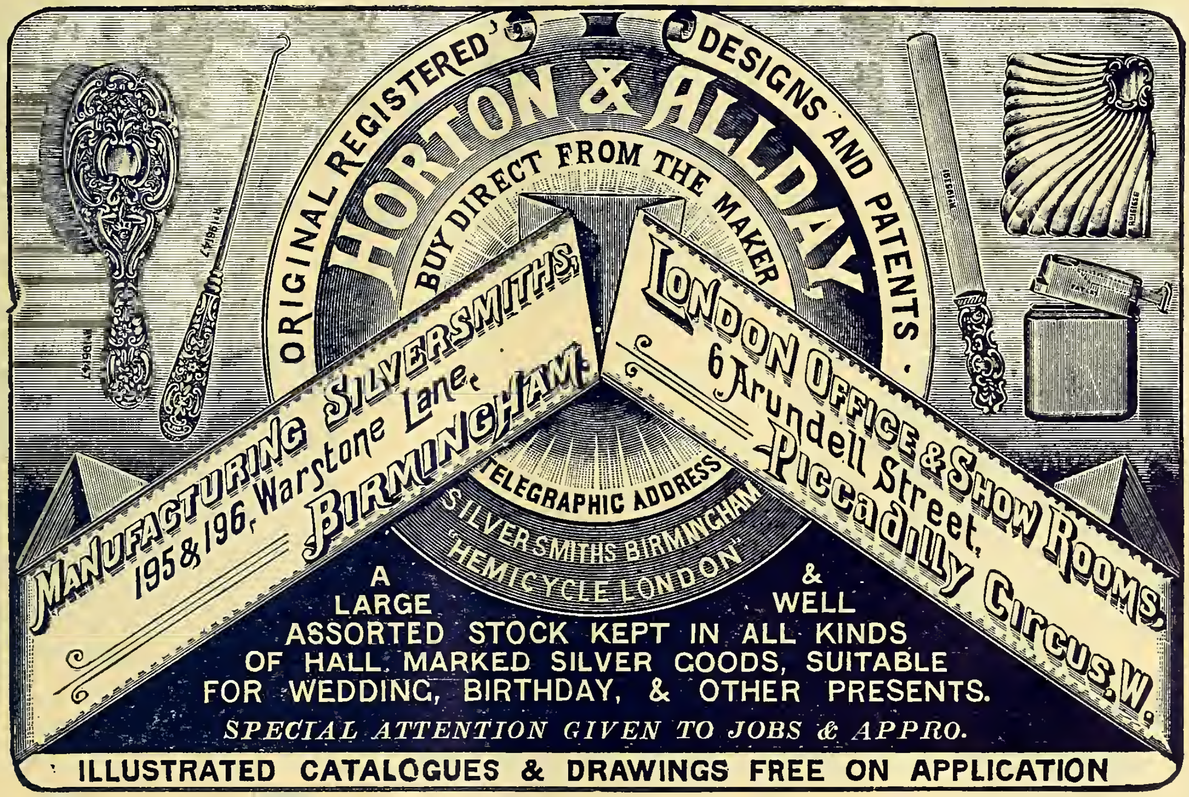

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Piccadilly Circus, W.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
"SILVERSMITHS BIRMINGHAM"
"HEMICYCLE LONDON"
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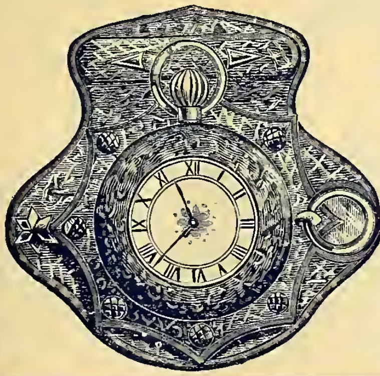
NOVELTY for 1893.
The "Princess Marie" Registered Detachable Watch Pocket.
Worn above waist in position of gentleman's watch pocket, or on breast. Attached to any watch chain. Mounted lizard skin, and in all ordinary leathers.



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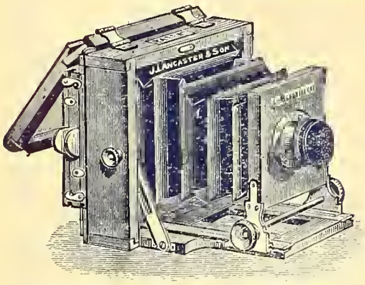
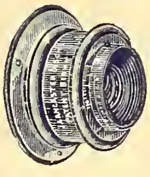
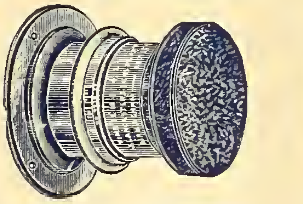


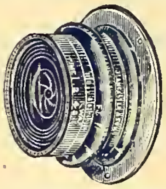
Lancaster's 1893 "Le Merveilleux" (Patent).
¼-pl., **21/-**; ½-pl., **42/-**; 1/1-pl., **63/-**



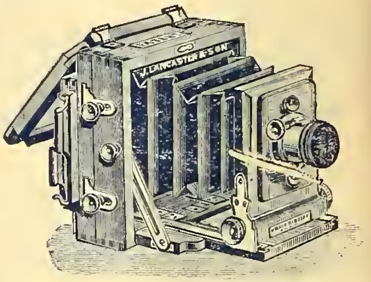
Lancaster's New "Narrow Angle" Lens (Patent).



Lancaster's New "Silver Ring Rapid Rectigraph" Lens (Patent).



Lancaster's New Wide-angle "Rectigraph" Lens (Patent).



Lancaster's 1893 "Le Meritoire" (Patent).
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Narrow Angle	12/6	21/-	30/-	42/-	50/-
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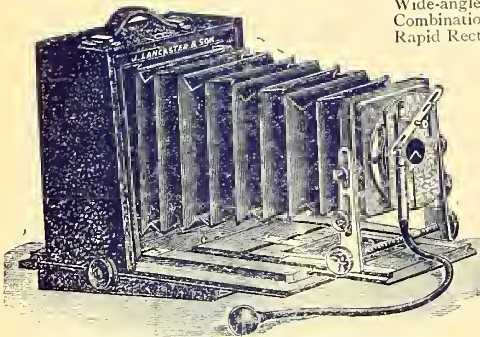
Wide-angle Rectigraph	30/-	42/-	50/-	63/-	70/-
Combination Rectigraph	30/-	42/-	50/-	70/-	90/-
Rapid Rectigraph	40/-	60/-	80/-	100/-	120/-



Lancaster's "Portable Instantograph" (Patent).
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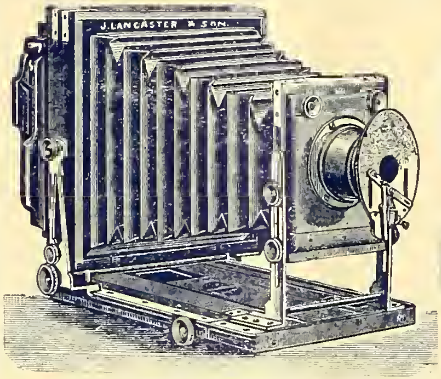

Lancaster's 1893 "Special Instantograph" (Patent). Brass Bound.
¼-pl., **50/-**; ½-pl., **100/-**; 1/1-pl., **150/-**

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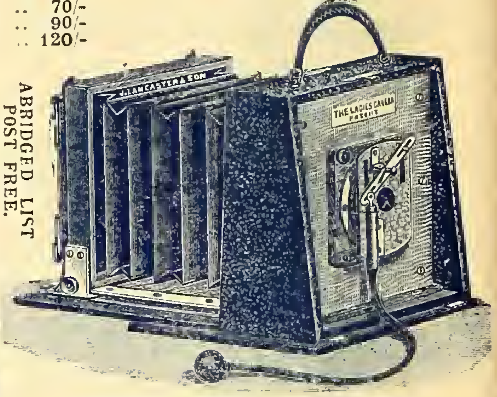

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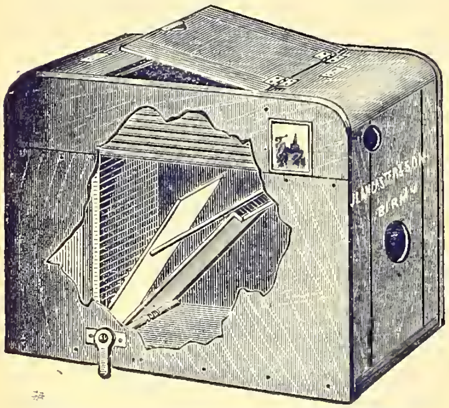

Lancaster's Hand Camera, the "Rover" (Patent).
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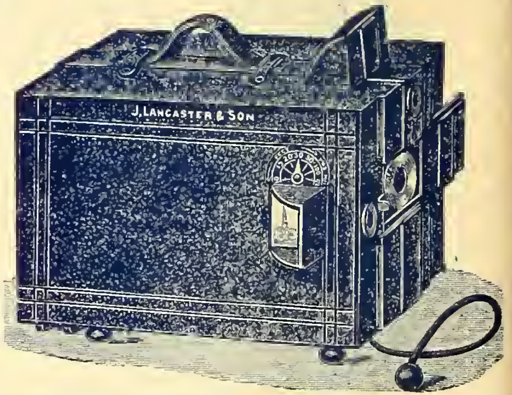
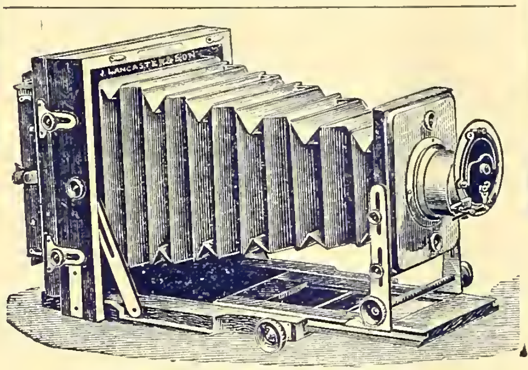


Lancaster's Hand Camera, "The Omnigraph (Patent). Carries six ¼-plates. Cloth covered, **21/-**; Leather covered, **25/-**; Leather covered, every working part hidden, Superior Lens, &c., **31/6.**
The '93 Omnigraph, covered in best leather, with two Finders and registered adjustment for any focus, **42/-**



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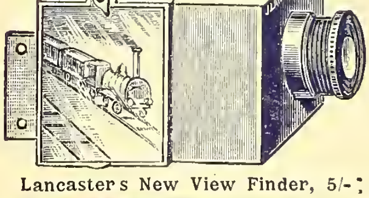

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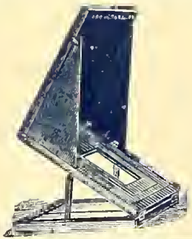

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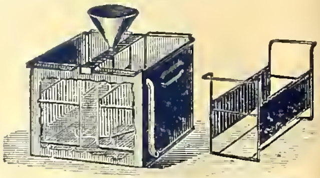

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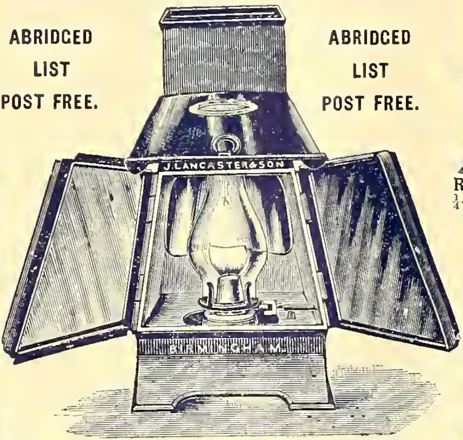

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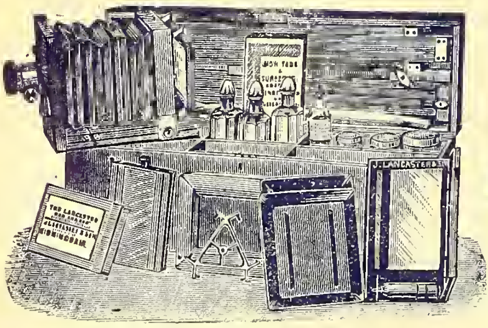
For Paraffin or Petroleum.
Can be used for White, Yellow, Ruby, or Deep Ruby Light. Price **7/6**; larger lamp, **10/6**



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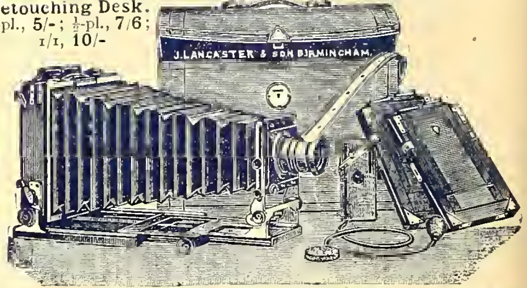

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¼-pl., **168/-**; ½-pl., **252/-**; 1/1-pl., **336/-**

WILLDAY, FRANK, *Watch Case Manufacturer*, 4, RYLEY-STREET, COVENTRY. At the meeting of the creditors, held at Coventry, the Official Receiver stated that the total proofs up to the present amounted to £79 19s. 2d., but in addition to that there was the bill of the petitioning creditors, the Sheffield Smelting Co., for £135 18s. 10d. So far as he could understand, the debtor recently left Coventry, and, amongst other things, he took with him a very heavy box. What the box contained he was not able to say. Debtor left his keys with one of the workmen, with some money for two weeks' wages. It was understood that he was going to London, and that this workman was to take charge of the place until he came back. As he did not do so, the Sheffield Smelting Co. thought it better to protect the property by putting it in bankruptcy. There was an evident intention on the part of Willday not to come back, because all the best of the private furniture had been removed, the drawers were empty, and in the best bedroom, when the outer covering was taken off, it was found that there was no bed at all underneath. The safe was locked, and on opening it he found a small quantity of silver, but no watch cases. There were three watch movements which had been claimed and returned, as they had been sent for cases to be made to them, and had not been returned. There was no cash book, and the ledger was not at all reliable. He was not able to say what the liabilities would be; up to the present time they amounted to £753 1s. 3d., of which £425 9s. 5d. would rank for dividend. The proceeds from the sale by auction on the previous day would probably realise £135. He had traced some goods to a Birmingham pawnshop. The estate will be wound up by the Official Receiver. Among the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Jones, H.	Birmingham	38	0	0
Moore, J.	Coventry	50	0	0
Stringer, J. G.	,,	17	3	0
FULLY SECURED CREDITOR	,,	28	0	0
Sheffield Smelting Co., Limited, PARTLY SECURED	Sheffield	135	18	10
BANKERS' CLAIMS		430	0	0

HILTON, JAMES, *Jeweler and Watchmaker*, recently carrying on business at 10, BOLTON-STREET, BURY. This debtor on appearing for his adjourned public examination stated that he had not kept any books, and the statement in the accounts he had filed, that between March, 1892, and March, 1893, he had lost £78 in his business, was arrived at by guesswork. He lost £76 on a branch shop at Little Lever. He had no papers or books to show in connection with the Little Lever transactions. Witness lost a further £40 by removing to the shop he had just left. The place was closed for a month, and business afterwards fell off. It cost him £33 or £34 to fit up the new shop. Since his last examination some of his relations had put in a claim for various goods, to all of which they were entitled. The examination was then declared closed.

MARTIN, CHARLES JAMES, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 1, CAMBRAY-PLACE, CHELTENHAM. A receiving order having been made the first meeting of creditors was held on the 16th ult. The creditors who proved included Platnor Bros., London, £23 19s. 6d.; R. Marfells, London, £30 14s. 6d.; and Nordman, £33 5s. According to the debtor's statement of his affairs, the unsecured liabilities amount to £377 15s. 9d.; fully secured claims to £34 12s., the value of the security being estimated at £62; and preferential claims to £16 7s. 5d. It transpired, however, that a claim of £150 by the bankrupt's father, for money lent, had been omitted from the statement, which will increase the unsecured liabilities to £527 15s. 9d. The assets consist of stock-in-trade estimated to produce £200, good book debts £3 10s., and other items, in all an estimated estate of £312 18s. The Receiver, however, said he thought the value of the stock in trade was over-estimated, and the matter was left in his hands.

MITCHELL, JOHN BATTEN, *Jeweler*, 37, EASTON, PORTLAND. A receiving order was made on June 7th. The public examination will be held at the County-hall, Dorchester, on August 4th.

NORMAN, ABRAHAM, *Manufacturing Jeweler*, 3, HEDDON-STREET, REGENT-STREET, and 152, AVENUE-ROAD, ACTON. A receiving order was made on June 5th. At the first meeting it was stated that the accounts showed total liabilities £8,412 4s. 4d., of which £1,528 7s. 4d. were expected to rank, against assets valued at £1,025 18s. 2d. The debtor commenced business as a manufacturing jeweler about forty years ago in partnership with his father and brother. He subsequently traded alone, and in 1885 changed the nature of the business to that of a dealer in jewelry. The majority of the debts are due to pawnbrokers, who hold goods as security. The debtor ascribes his failure to excessive interest paid on borrowed moneys, depreciation in the value of stock-in-trade that has been pawned, and loss of stock to the value of £1,000 by a burglary in 1891. No offer was submitted, and a trustee to wind-up the estate in bankruptcy was appointed. Among the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Attenborough, R. P.	London	176	0	0
Gordon, R. M.	,,	205	0	0
Johnson, Walker, and Tolhurst... ...	,,	107	2	0
Parker and Welford	,,	84	0	0
Scott, P.	,,	130	0	0
Gall, F.	,,	72	5	0
Turner and McDermott	,,	99	5	6
Tannenbaum, A.	,,	37	2	6
Ball, E. C....	,,	20	0	0
Evans, T.	,,	26	5	0
Hickes, —...	,,	31	1	3
Wolff, E.	,,	20	18	1
Richardson,—	Acton	33	0	0
Francis, Dr.	,,	20	0	0
Gyde, F.	Birmingham	28	10	0
FULLY SECURED CREDITORS				
Mortgage to Henry Read and others ...	London	1,200	0	0
Attenborough, R. P.	,,	221	6	4
Attenborough,—(Exors. of)	,,	311	13	4
Attenborough, E. S.	,,	479	1	4
Attenborough, J. Jay, late	,,	1,546	0	0
Ellis, R. E.	,,	553	17	0
Richardson and Sons	,,	84	13	4
Sulton, T. M.	,,	617	12	0
Sanderson, E.	,,	564	2	10
Vaughan, C. B.	,,	1,376	5	0

NICHOLAS, JOHN SAMUEL, *Jeweler*, SHEAF-STREET, DAVENTRY. A receiving order was made June 14th.

WOLFF, VICTOR, *Diamond Merchant*, 91, HATTON-GARDEN. The bankruptcy in this case has been annulled on the ground that all the debts provable in the bankruptcy had been released and discharged.

COLLINS, HENRY GOULD AND WILLIAM WILSON COLLINS (H. G. COLLINS AND CO., trading as), *Art Jewelers and Silversmiths*, 29, KING'S-ROAD, BRIGHTON. The public examination of these debtors was fixed for hearing at the last sitting of the Brighton County-court, but the Official Receiver stated that the creditors had resolved to adjourn their meeting for three months, and he asked that the examination might also be adjourned. He was of opinion that in the meantime the creditors would be paid in full. The examination was eventually adjourned as desired.

WEYGANG, LOUIS HENRY, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 85, HEATH-STREET, HAMPSTEAD. A dividend of 2s. 2½d. has been declared.

MACDONALD, WILLIAM, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, GREYFRIARS PLACE, EDINBURGH. The examination in bankruptcy of this debtor was held on June 6th, in the Edinburgh Sheriff Court-house. He said he began business about two and a-half years ago, with £160 capital, about £30 of which was spent in paying off former debts, and the remainder in purchasing goods. He also put other £40 into the business. He first found himself in difficulties about eighteen months ago, and then began to pledge goods. He has now handed to the trustee pawn tickets representing transactions to the amount of £120. He accounted for his deficiency of £175 by having lost at least £120 by the goods which he pawned being pledged for less than their value, by dull trade, and bad debts, and other ways. An offer of composition with security was decided upon.

FROGGATT, THOMAS FREDERICK, *Optician*, 17, ATTERCLIFFE-ROAD, and 35, CONINGSBY-ROAD, SHEFFIELD. Second and final dividend declared of 5s. 3s.

JUDDA, FERDINAND, *Wholesale Optician*, 62, HOLBORN-VIADUCT, and 1A, BOWLING-GREEN-LANE, HARRINGDON-ROAD. Dividend of 2s. 4d. declared.

DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT.

BROWN, HERBERT FREEMAN, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 20, BOUVERIE-ROAD, WEST FOLKESTONE. A deed of assignment was filed on June 2nd. The unsecured liabilities are £708 3s. 7d. Estimated net assets £383. Among the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Chaplin and Son	London	82	4	8
Maguire, John	Dorfois	53	0	0
Willoughby, Miss —	Folkestone	444	10	0

LISTER, WOOLDRIDGE, *Wholesale Jeweler*, 45, FREDERICK-STREET, BIRMINGHAM, and THE UPLANDS, WEST HEATH, KING'S NORTON. A deed was filed on June 13th. The unsecured liabilities are £2,620 7s. 11d.; and the estimated net assets £970 14s. 4d. The principal creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Booth and Sons	Birmingham	399	0	0
Lister and Wright	,,	318	0	0
Payton, C., and Sons	,,	156	0	0
Harrison, James	,,	154	0	0
Usher, Samuel	,,	129	0	0
Haseler, N. H.	,,	151	0	0
Russell, N.	,,	73	0	0
Osborn, N.	,,	78	0	0
Hollis and Newman	,,	62	0	0
Baker, E., and Sons	,,	46	0	0
Fray, Joseph	,,	59	0	0
Qines, R.	,,	68	0	0
Harrison, G.	,,	36	0	0
Spencer, N., and Sons	,,	43	0	0
Pattison and Cc.	,,	36	0	0
Moore, J. (Exors of)	,,	20	0	0
Oliver, N.	,,	22	0	0
Johnstone, G. H. and Co.	,,	105	0	0
Busley, D.	,,	43	0	0
Coley Bros.	,,	21	0	0
James Bros.	,,	28	0	0
Thorn, R.	Glasgow	23	0	0
Jephson, T.	Leeds	25	0	0
Lister, H. W.	...	24	0	0
Lister, H. W. (salary)	...	32	0	0

LOEWENSTARK, A. D. AND SONS (MARCUS DAVID LOEWENSTARK, trading as), *Goldsmith and Masonic Jeweler*, 110, 111, and 135, Strand, W.C., and 32, Aldgate, E. A deed of assignment was filed on May 31st. The unsecured liabilities are £11,292 16s. 2d. Estimated net assets £14,830 1s. 3d. In this case, although the statement of affairs showed a surplus on paper of three thousand pounds, it has been found necessary to register a deed of assignment. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Abraham, B. H.	London	42	0	0
Abraham, H. A.	,,	68	0	0
Blanpain, V.	,,	104	0	0
Benjamin, M.	,,	36	0	0
Dellaperrelle and Co.	,,	30	0	0
Freeman, H. C.	,,	221	0	0
Gay, Lamaille and Co.	,,	205	0	0
Harris, S.	,,	51	0	0
Laurent, J. L.	,,	71	0	0
Lazarus, H., and Son	,,	80	0	0
Isaacs, A. and J.	,,	431	0	0
Newmark, M.	,,	151	0	0
Nathan, Walter	,,	67	0	0
Perrier, M. A.	,,	754	0	0
Peck, —	,,	100	0	0
Pollock, —	,,	37	0	0
Pierce, —	,,	69	0	0
Rosenberg, M. B.	,,	52	0	0
Mermer and Bournard	,,	103	0	0
Rolez, —	,,	95	0	0
Sibray, Hall and Co.	,,	163	0	0
Simkin, W.	,,	34	0	0
Schuldenpie, F.	,,	50	0	0
Samuel, E.	,,	76	0	0
Tapton and Co.	,,	132	0	0
Troup and Co.	,,	48	0	0
Raphael, Ralph	,,	350	0	0
Appleby, A., and Co.	Birmingham	279	0	0
Blanckensee, J., and Co.	,,	415	0	0
Bolt, Addis	,,	249	0	0
Bragg, C. B.	,,	371	0	0
Cox Bros.	,,	484	0	0
Davis, M.	,,	222	0	0
Daniel and Arter	,,	102	0	0
Green, Charles	,,	249	0	0
Hascher, W. H.	,,	32	0	0
Hyde, H., and Sons	,,	348	0	0
Hands and Son	,,	140	0	0
Levetus Bros.	,,	916	0	0
Minshull and Latimer	,,	136	0	0
Moore, J.	,,	62	0	0
Mayell Bros.	,,	41	0	0
Phelps Bros.	,,	64	0	0
Rowbotham, C.	,,	39	0	0
Stokes and Puckett	,,	20	0	0
Smith Bros.	,,	85	0	0
Walton, —	,,	463	0	0
Nathan Bros.	,,	793	0	0
Nathan and Hayes	,,	57	0	0
Hill, T.	Coventry	255	0	0
Sax, J.	Newmarket	130	0	0
Batt, John	Sheffield	126	0	0
Baum, Maurice	,,	156	0	0
Beaumont, W. H.	,,	84	0	0
Hardy, S.	,,	37	0	0
Mosley, R. F.	,,	209	0	0
Southern and Richardson	,,	65	0	0
Slater Bros.	,,	85	0	0
Loewenstark, Selina	,,	150	0	0

BAYLISS, GEORGE, 60A, SPENCER-STREET, BIRMINGHAM. At the meeting of creditors, it was resolved that the trustee be authorised to dispose of the estate of the debtor on the following terms :—That he give to the trustee separate bills for the creditors to pay them 15s. in the £ by equal instalments, at three, six, nine, and twelve months from the 1st July, the last two instalments to be secured by the debtor's father. The dividends to creditors of 10s. and under to be paid in cash The dividends to each creditor between 10s. and £2 to be paid by one secured bill at six months. It was found impracticable to carry out a proposition made by the debtor.

FRODSHAM, HENRY HERBERT, *Jeweler and Watchmaker*, 3, HARPUR-STREET, BEDFORD.—A deed was filed June 16th. Unsecured liabilities, £650 13s. 3d.; estimated net assets, £190. The principal creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Denner Bros.	London	24	0	0
Wright, Walter	,,	65	0	0
Barker, Paul	Bedford	20	0	0
Page, J. E.	,,	42	0	0
Halliley and Himson	,,	50	0	0
Allen and Martin	Birmingham	180	0	0
Thomas, —	,,	22	0	0
Willis, Mark and Co.	Sheffield	49	0	0

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

BAILEY AND HUTCHINSON, *Jewelers*, VYSE-BUILDINGS, 34, VYSE-STREET, BIRMINGHAM. May 31st. Debts by Josiah Henry Bailey, who continues.

GRANICHSTAEDTEN, GUSTAVE, AND NEPHEW, *Diamond Merchants and Brokers*, 41, HOLBORN-VIADUCT. June 6th.

KNOWLES AND ARROW, *Electro and Nickel Platers and Gilders* 19, GRAVEL-LANE, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD. May 17th. Debts by Charles Knowles, who continues.

Messrs. King and Sons.

MESSRS. KING AND SONS have now got thoroughly settled in the Charterhouse-street premises. All the necessary alterations are made, and the firm may fairly claim that the galleries are the best fitted and best lighted in the trade. As for the stock of novelties in Messrs. King's particular lines it leaves nothing to be desired. We were recently struck with the neat appearance of some of the show-cases filled with novelties in the new art shades of brocades, with silvered or gilt mounts, as well as by the excellent effect of the tortoiseshell and silver articles of which they show a great profusion. A new adjustable toilet mirror, about two feet six high, with artistic E. P. frame, impressed us as an imposing addition to the toilet table. Some very pleasing effects have been produced by the imitation of old lace in gilt and silvered metal, for flower tubes, menu holders, and other purposes. It is a novel effect in metal, and is certainly very pretty.

Ladies' Gem Rings.

WE have recently inspected a very large stock of ladies' fancy rings—in almost every description of settings and variety of gems—manufactured by W. Pendleton and Sons, of Northampton-street, Birmingham. In the matter of price the firm exactly hit the export market as well as the home trade. These very cheap rings are well finished, and most of the patterns display unusually good taste—rings of an altogether superior appearance being offered to the trade at remarkably low prices. Buyers in all parts of the world who stock Messrs. Pendleton and Sons' goods may safely rely upon securing a ready and remunerative sale.

ANOTHER Birmingham firm (A. G. Griffiths, 4, Hylton-street) make a special line in ladies' diamond and pearl rings at surprisingly low prices, and yet turn out a ring which looks many times its value owing to the excellence of the work and of design. Those made by Mr. Griffiths, with a cluster of pearls and a brilliant in the centre, and the pearl and diamond half-hoop in various designs, are very attractive. We may mention that the rings are wrought and carved, not stamped, and undoubtedly constitute excellent value.

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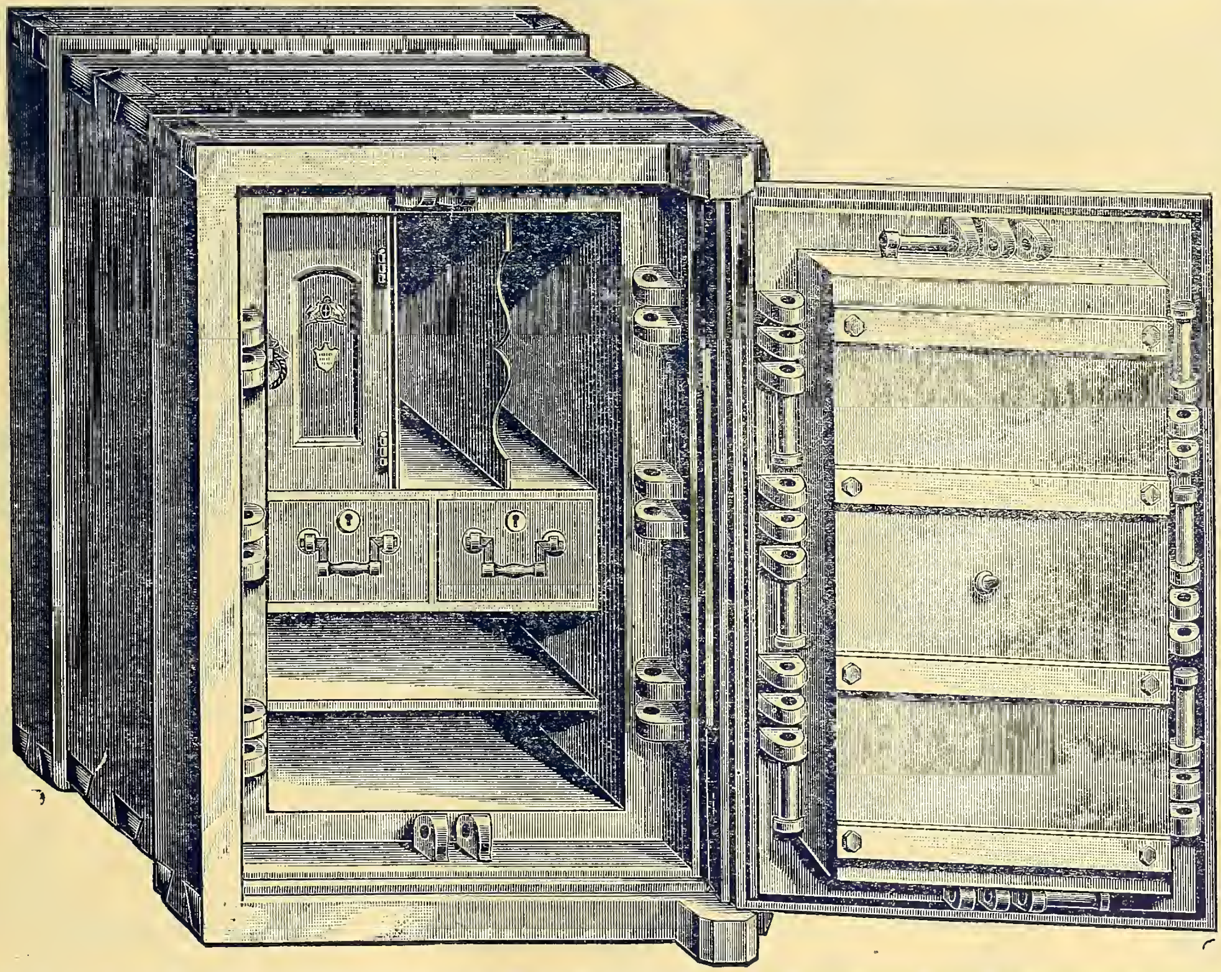

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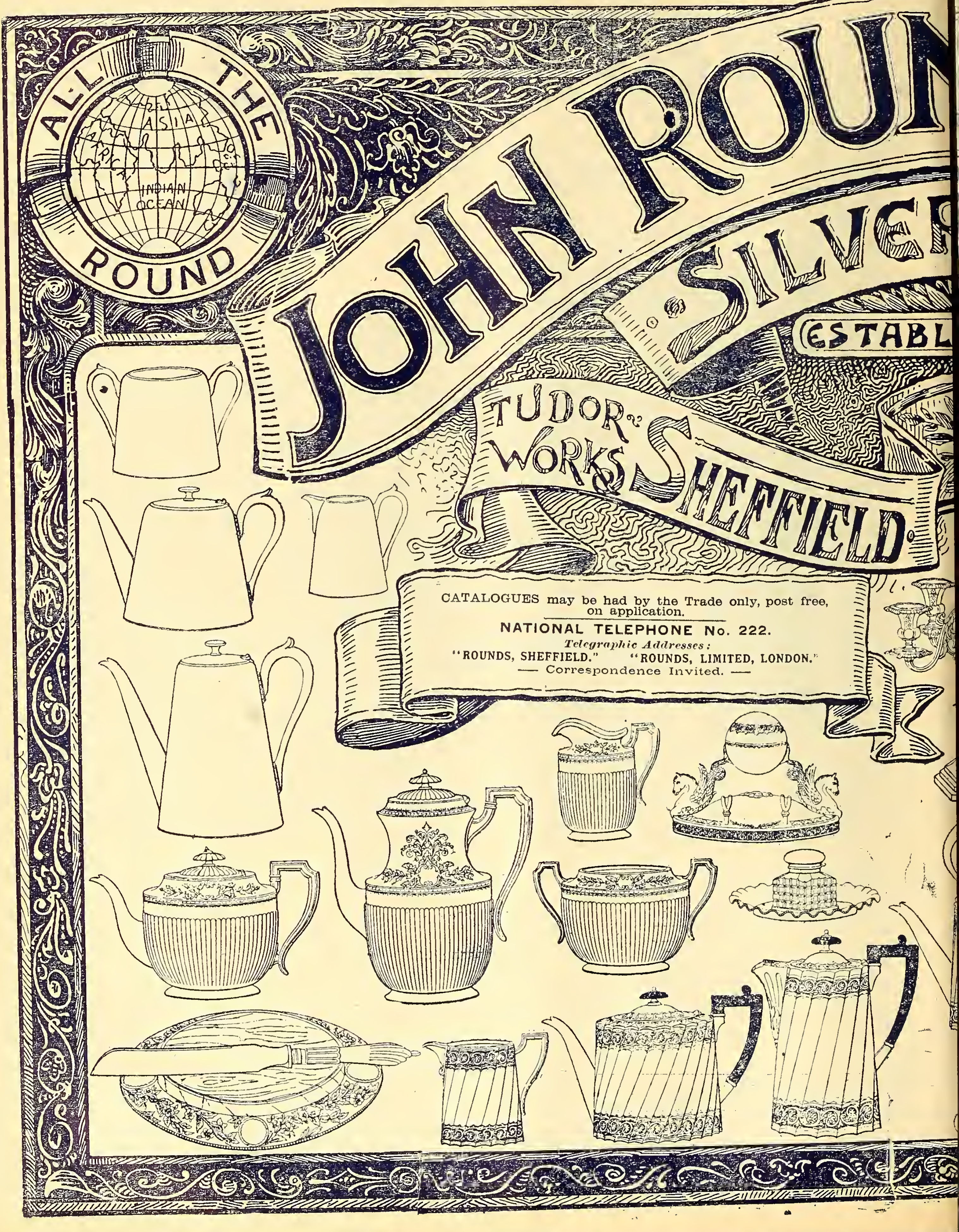
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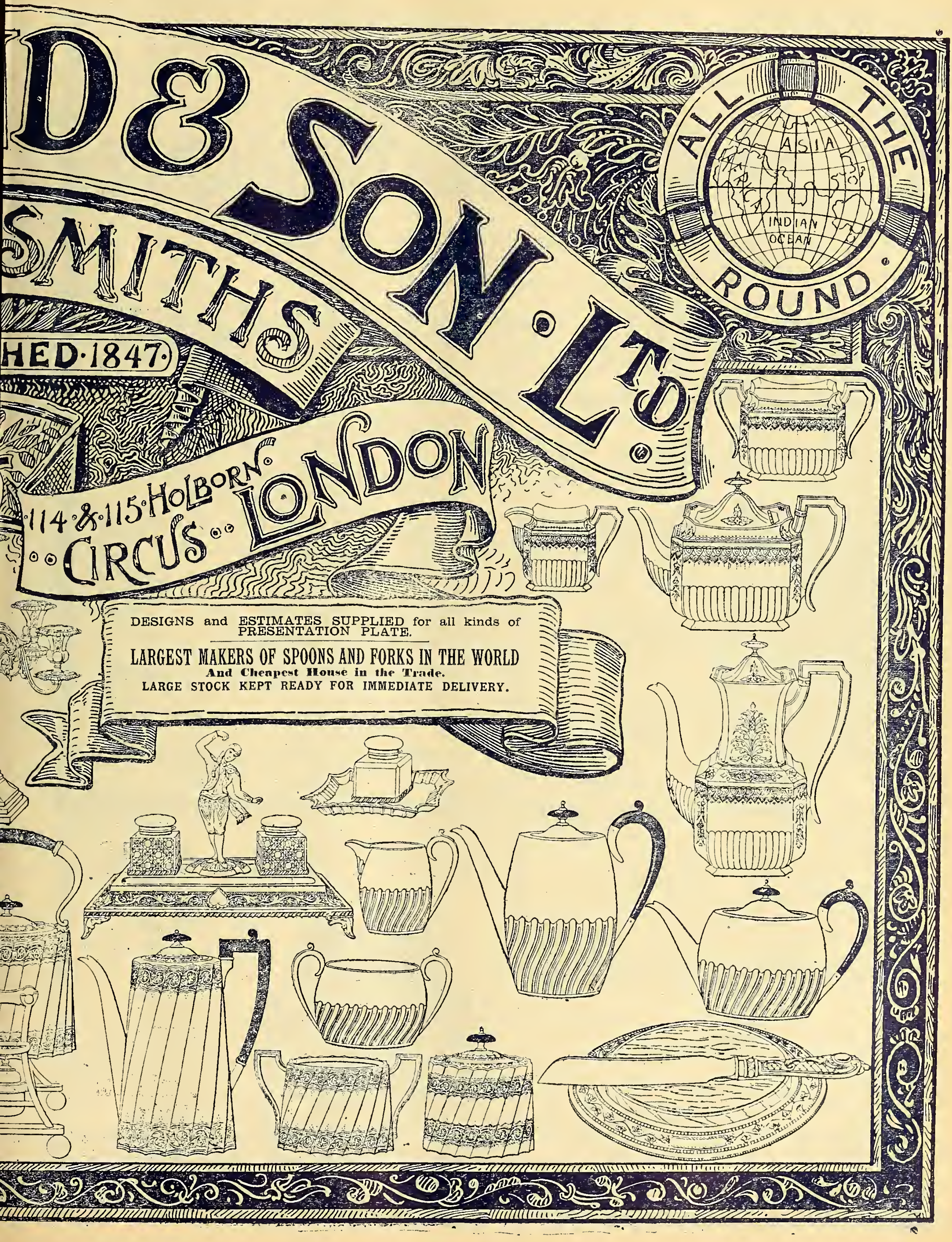
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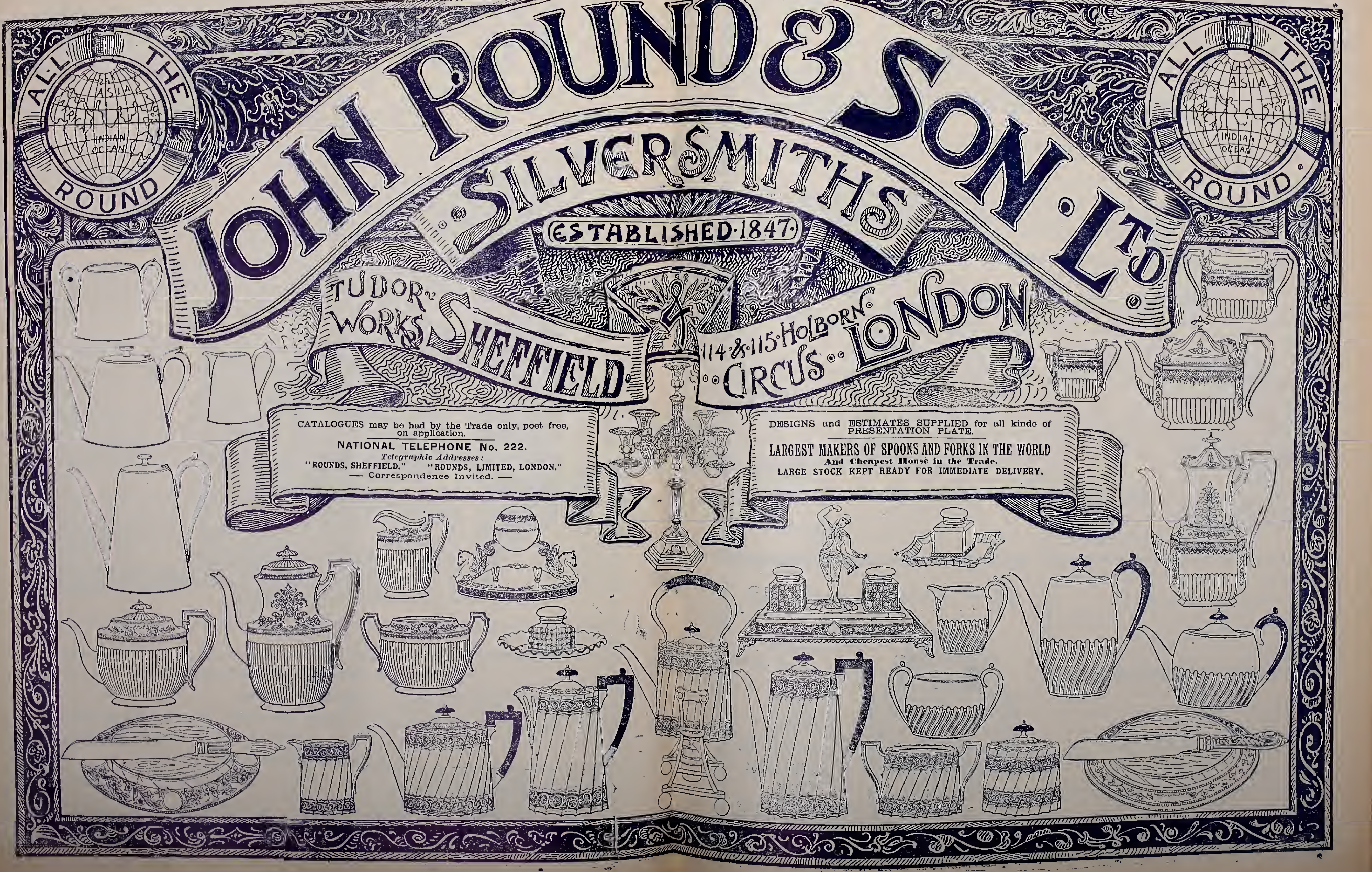
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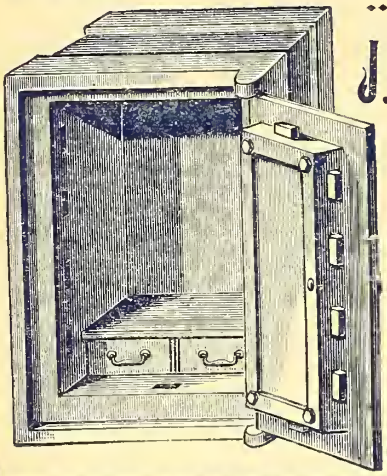

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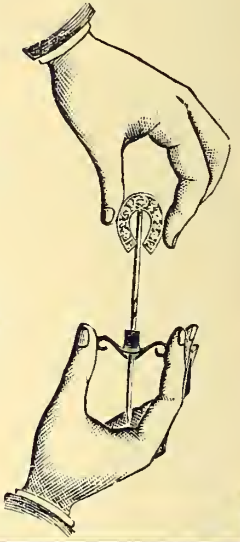

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The Advantages claimed for this "PATENT GRIP" are, that it may be applied to any pin without alteration to same, no thread or nick being required in stem to fix the grip; the greater the pull on pin the tighter the grip which holds the pin securely.

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VOLUME XVII.
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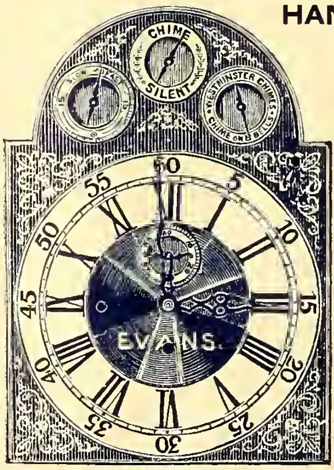

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In and Out of the Courts.

How Stolen Jewelry is Disposed of.

A CASE of happily rather unusual occurrence recently came before the Handsworth Police-court, in which one Harriet Shaw, twenty-seven, had disposed of a pair of stolen gold earrings to Eliza Gibbons, wife of a jeweler in Great Hampton-street, Birmingham, for one shilling. The buyer admitted she knew these were worth 7s. 6d., stating that she only bought them out of charity. This is a kind of charity, we fear, that has landed many inside a prison wall. Mrs. Gibbons has had a narrow escape which ought to teach her a lesson. Another jeweler's wife also bought a silver chain of the prisoner, but in this instance the full value, 2s. 6d. an ounce, was paid. From this it would appear that the Birmingham jeweler's wife forms quite a channel for business, and one that it may perhaps be as well to watch, and that for many reasons.

Wholesale Illegal Pawning.

WILLIAM MARTIN TROUP pleaded guilty at the Sheriff Criminal-court, Glasgow, on the 3rd ult., to charges of having pledged and stolen five rings, three watches, and thirteen bracelets, which he had obtained on approbation; and also to pledging in various pawn offices in the city 346 silver brooches, 325 silver bangles, thirty-six silver pins, and twenty-four pairs of silver earrings, which he had received as samples from a Birmingham firm for whom he acted as agent in Glasgow. On behalf of the accused it was stated that he had been in embarrassed circumstances and yielded to the temptation in order to meet the claims of his creditors, his intention being to redeem the articles afterwards.—Sheriff Birnie remarked that the commercial community must be protected, and passed sentence of five months' imprisonment.

Sale or Return.

MESSRS. STRAUB AND HEBTING, jewelers, 299, High-street, Borough, S.E., recently brought an action against Charles Board, Catford, for £2 11s. 6d, value of a watch supplied on certain terms. Plaintiff stated that no special terms were agreed upon when the two watches were handed to defendant for sale or return. Defendant on the other hand alleged that special arrangements were made, and that it was understood he would sell the watches on the weekly payment system. Some money received in this way was sent to plaintiffs, together with a bill showing the various items collected, and it was accepted. Defendant then read a letter dated previous to the time money was sent, in which plaintiffs say that they cannot do business under defendant's terms.—His Honor said that plaintiffs had given the watches to the defendant for sale or return, and defendant was liable for the same.—Judgment was given for the plaintiffs.

Serious Charges Against a Liverpool Jeweler.

JACOB SANDEMAN, late jeweler, of Bold-street, Liverpool, has been committed for trial upon the charge of obtaining a valuable diamond bracelet and ring from Joel Wackholder, of Hatton-garden, by representing they were to be shown to an actress. Since this transaction there has been a meeting of Sandeman's creditors, held in Birmingham, when it was stated that he had obtained about £8,000 worth of jewelry from various tradesmen of which he could give no satisfactory account as to disposal. Being a heavy creditor for other things Mr. Wackholder has instigated the above proceedings.

A Bad Beginning.

A DEWSBURY youth recently employed in a jeweler's has been writing for a number of gold alberts from several firms in Birmingham and Manchester, upon paper bearing his former employer's address, which he has succeeded in obtaining. These he pawned in various places, and went off to the Derby to enjoy himself. He now awaits his trial, bail being refused.

Shop-lifting by a Mendicant.

AS one of the assistants of Messrs. Martin and Co., 4, Imperial Circus, Cheltenham, was dressing the window, a middle-aged woman came in and asked for an hospital ticket. and at the same time managed to abstract from a tray upon the counter a diamond horseshoe brooch valued at £14 14s. This she attempted to pawn, but was given into custody by Mr. Tuson, the pawnbroker. She was sentenced to one month's hard labor.

A Juvenile Thief.

THE thieves of North London have got into their hands an expert little boy, only nine years of age, who has already performed some Turpin-like enterprises. Recently he managed to steal two watches from a jeweler's in Mare-street, Hackney, and although caught he subsequently escaped several times, and is now successfully eluding both his father and the police, who have several times caught sight of the young rascal.

Burglaries.

RECENTLY, in the small hours of the morning, a French Canadian broke the window of Mr. T. A. Stevens, Frodsham-street, Chester, and stole therefrom fourteen metal watches and four alberts, valued at £5. The sound of the crash, however, was heard by a policeman, who immediately pursued the thief, and caught him in possession of the abstracted property. He was committed for trial.

A Clever Burglary.

THE small lane in the City of London known as St. Swithin's is supposed to be well protected by a constable who can patrol the whole length in five minutes. Yet notwithstanding this, on a recent Sunday morning, at eleven o'clock, two burglars managed to enter the premises of Mr. Wordley and secure over £300 worth of plunder. Had they not been disturbed they would have had in another minute as many thousands of pounds worth. They, however, escaped, throwing away some of the bulky goods.

Window Smashers Make a Mistake.

ON the early morning of the 12th ult. a thief or thieves made a sad mistake in confounding "Abyssinian" jewelry with the standard metal, and smashed the window of the "Abyssinian Gold" Company's shop, Regent-street, in order to abstract a quantity of its contents. It would have been interesting to have witnessed what passed when they reached the "fence."

Robbery from Stock.

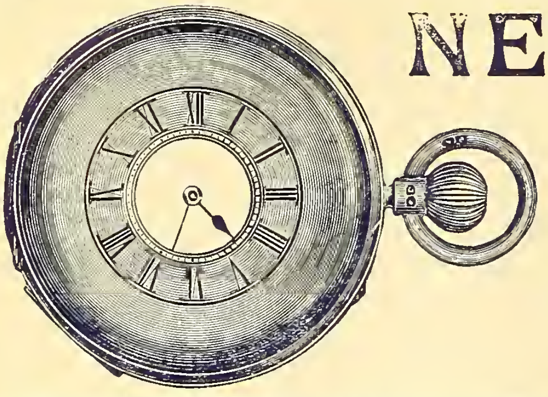
JAMES KNIGHT, twenty-six, residing at 50, Ledsam-street, a silversmith by trade, was charged at the Birmingham City Police-court with stealing a silver flower vase, the property of Mr. Lionel Spiers, silversmith, of Vittoria-street, by whom he was employed. The prisoner offered the vase, which was broken up, and valued at about seventeen shillings, for sale at Messrs. Davis's, Livery-street, where he was questioned as to how the article came into his possession, and subsequently given into custody. At the police lock-up a number of pawn-tickets relating to other silver articles which had been stolen from Mr. Spiers's factory on various dates were found upon him. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and the stipendiary magistrate said it was evident that the prisoner had been robbing his employer for some time.—He was sent to prison for two months with hard labor.

Extensive Robbery at St. Helens.

DURING the small hours of the 7th ult., an extensive theft of watches and jewelry took place from the lock-up shop of Mr. Joseph Hewitt, watchmaker and jeweler, Church-street, St. Helens. Somebody evidently acquainted with the place effected an entrance into the cellar by lifting the grid, which is reached from an entry, and then prizing open the doors leading into the shop; and carried off upwards of forty watches and rings and other jewelry. Six of the watches were gold ones, and all the others silver with one exception. Most of the watches had been left for repairs. Strange to say, there were other gold watches and jewelry lying about untouched. The thief got away completely without being observed. The value of the articles stolen is estimated at between £300 and £400. The police are now investigating the matter. It is considered that the whole thing was done very quickly when the entrance was gained, which must have taken a good time, as a strongly-bolted door had to be forced.

The Validity of an Agreement.

RECENTLY at St. Helens County-court, William Stephens, collier, was sued by Messrs. Wolfe and Co., wholesale jewelers, Manchester, for £5, value of a watch supplied. In answer to his Honor, Stephens said the watch he got from plaintiff's traveller was to be £6 10s. The traveller took his watch as part payment, for which he allowed thirty shillings, which left £5 to pay. He had not paid a farthing of that money, because he only took the watch on trial for a month with the understanding that his old one would be returned if he was not suited. Before the month's end he had the watch valued, and a watchmaker said it was only worth £4. Believing that he had not been dealt with fairly he asked for his own watch back, but was told that it had been sold. Defendant's wife corroborated. The traveller Broady, and a member of the firm, said the watch was sold without anything being said about a month's trial. The agreement to pay in instalments, which defendant's wife had signed, bore out this statement. Defendant strenuously stuck to his contention, and said that the witnesses were swearing falsely.—His Honor said defendant had better agree to an offer which was made by Mr. Riley, and pay £4.—This he refused to do.—His Honor said he had acted very unwisely, and on the facts of the case he was obliged to give a verdict for the £5 and costs, and defendant would thus have to pay £1 more than if he had accepted the offer.



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All kinds of English Lever Watches in Stock. Sole Makers of Patent Safety Wheel for Going Barrels. Keyless Work a Spécialité with or without the

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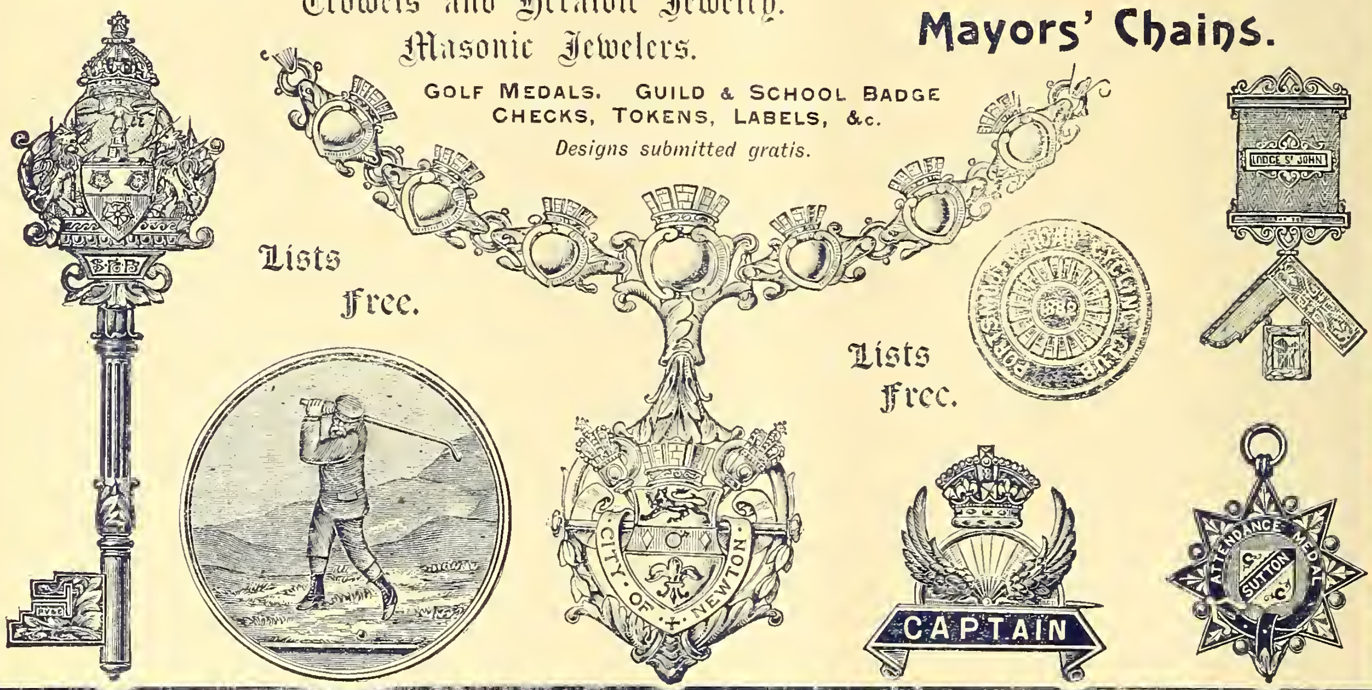

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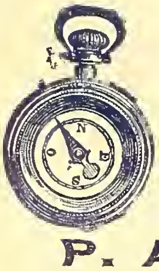

Case Nickel, size 14 lines. Big hand marks the whole circuit of 1,760 yards, the small hand in 50 miles, both indicate fractions. The Pedometer is regulated on a step of 2½ feet. The compass of this instrument is further provided with a Map, on which are indicated the principal towns of United Kingdom or other country. Price 8s. for one Sample, 20 per cent. discount for 12 pieces, CASH.

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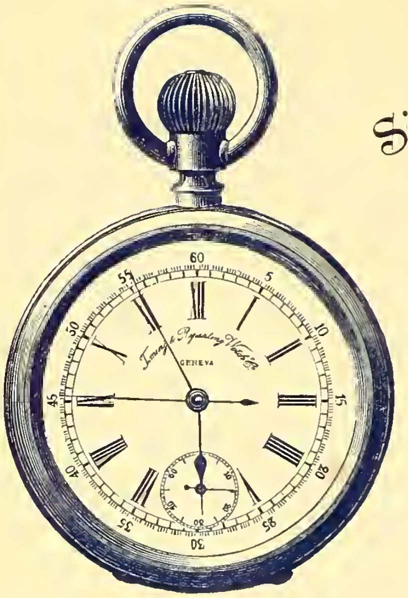

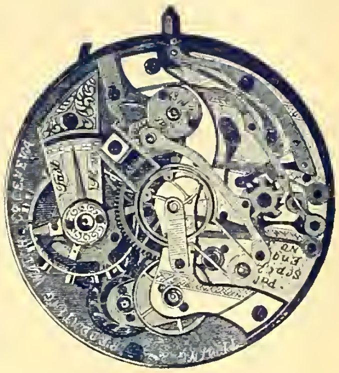

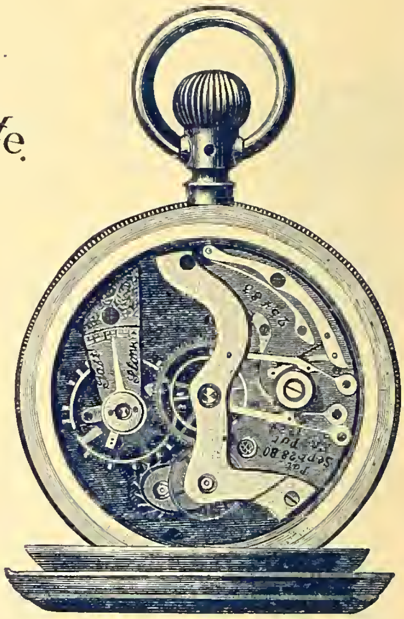

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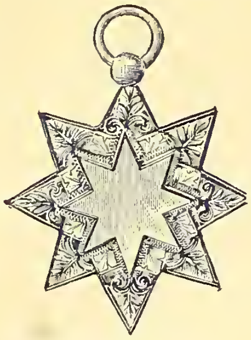
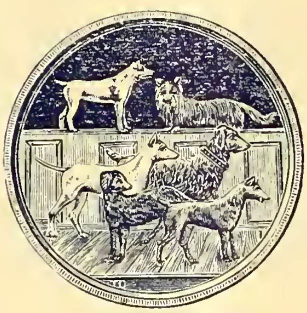
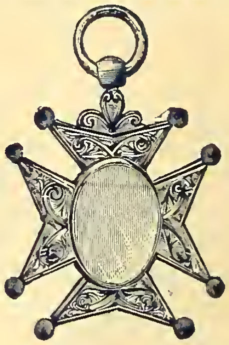


ATHLETIC MEDAL NO. 52.



DOG SHOW MEDAL, NO. 204.



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Grand selection of Gold and Silver Watches, of all the best possible qualities of English, Waltham, and Swiss manufacture.

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Gold and Silver Chains, of every description, for Ladies and Gentlemen.

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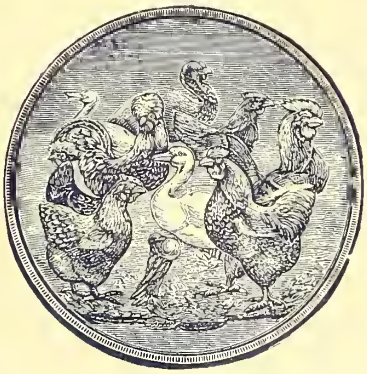

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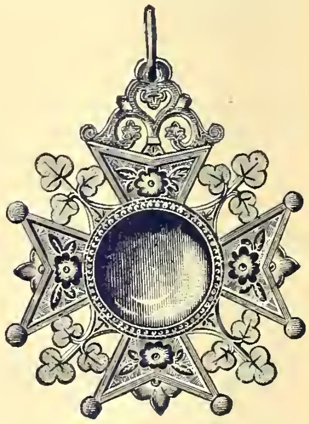

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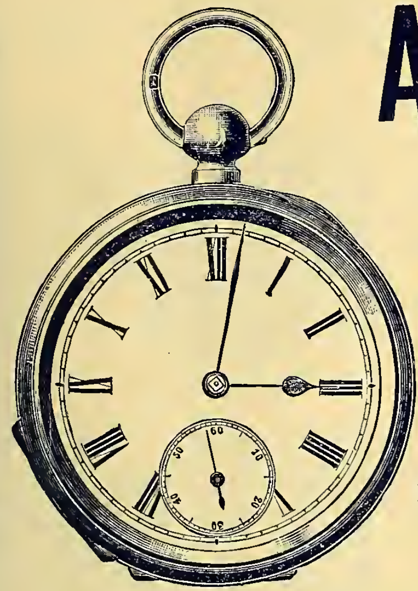

A. SYDENHAM,

Wholesale & Manufacturing Jeweler, and Watch Factor.

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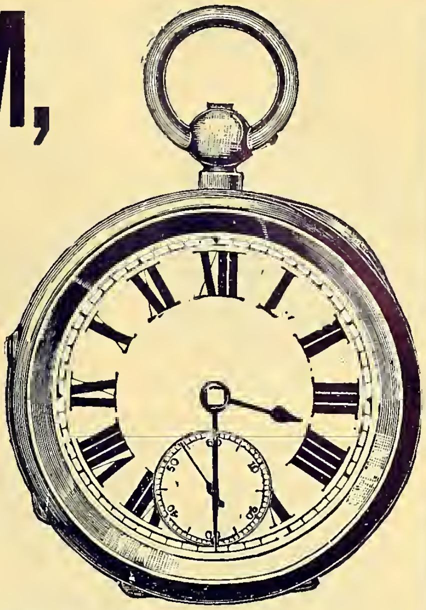

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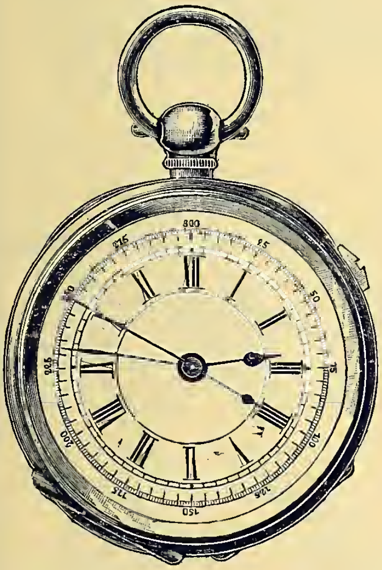
All 18ct. English Hall Marked.

PROMPT ATTENTION TO ALL ORDERS FOR PRESENTATION WATCHES.



Very fine selection of Centre Seconds Keyless and Key-winding, English Gold Watches, with $\frac{3}{4}$-plate Movements, all of the finest qualities of make and finish, Jeweled in every action, Chronometer Balance, Massive 18ct. English Hall Marked Cases.

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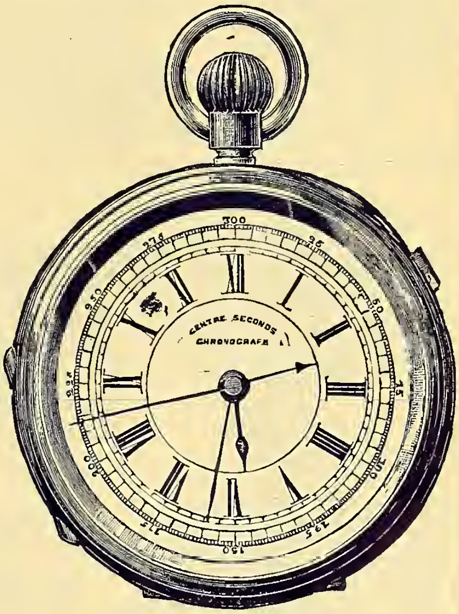

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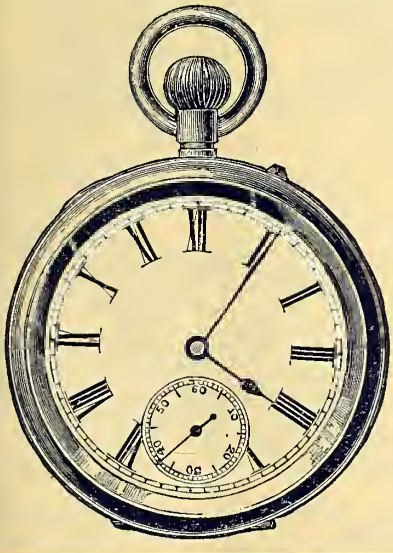

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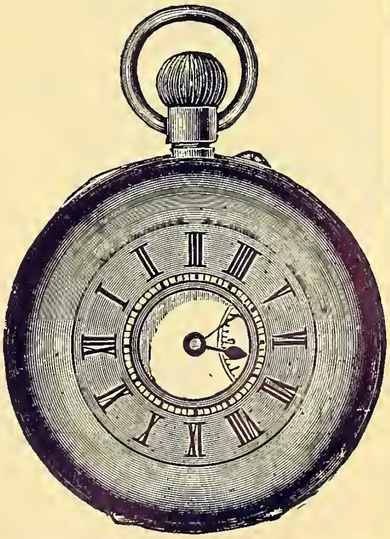

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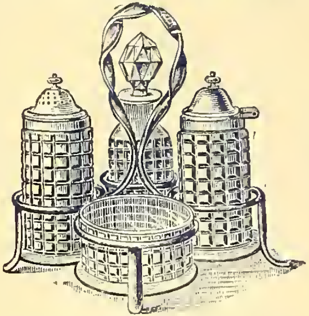
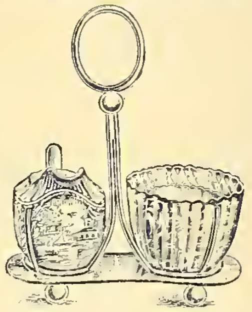
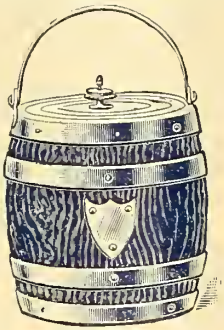
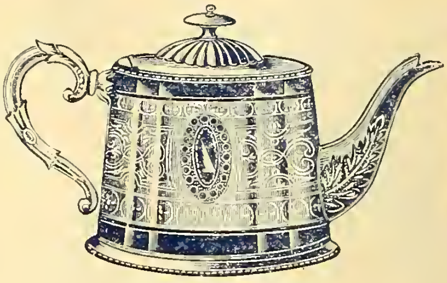
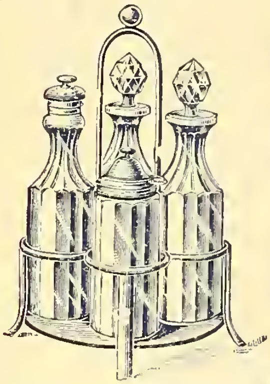
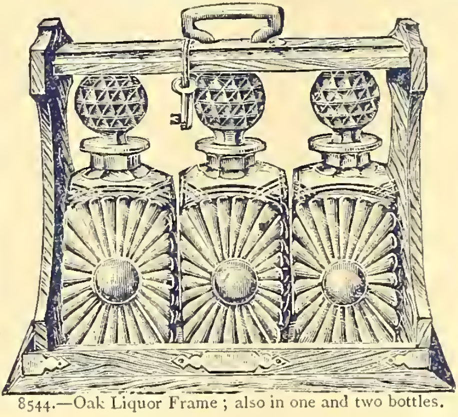

9578.—Plaid Glass Luncheon Cruet.

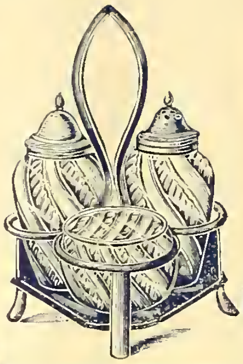

9719.—Sugar and Cream, Willow Pattern Design, Copeland China, all Colors.

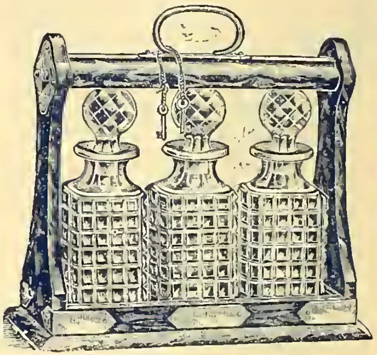

3437.—Oak Biscuit, with Four Bands.

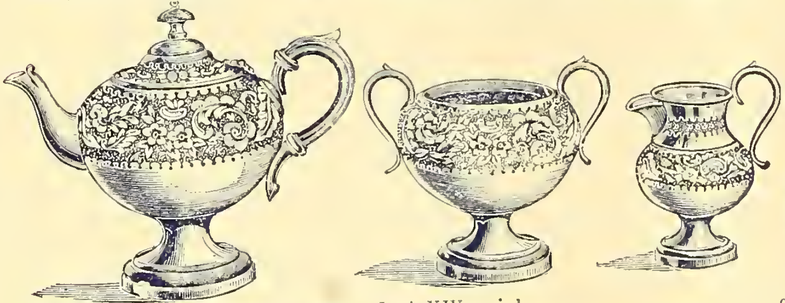

9392.—Tea, Pressed Pattern.

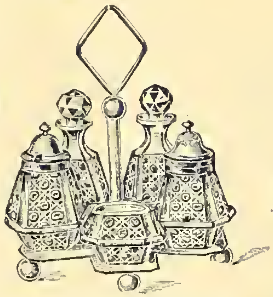

20.—Government Pattern Glass Cruet, and in 5 and 6 hole.

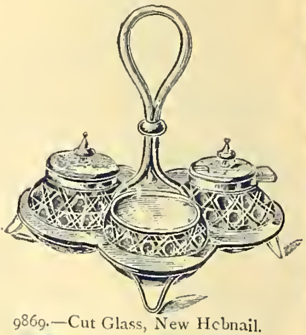

8544.—Oak Liquor Frame; also in one and two bottles.

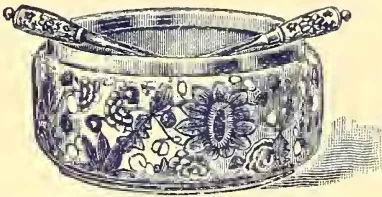

9723.—Breakfast, New Pressed Glass.

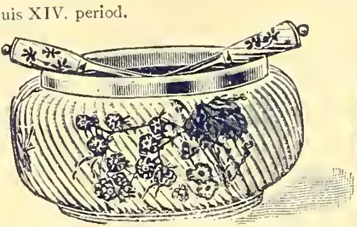

8780.—Oak Liquor Frame, American Glass (Sole Right).

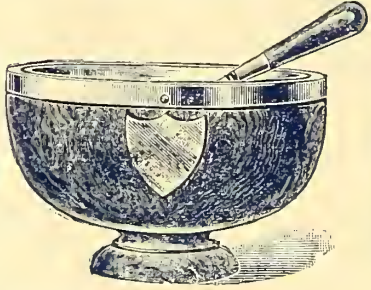

64.—Tea Set. Louis XIV. period.

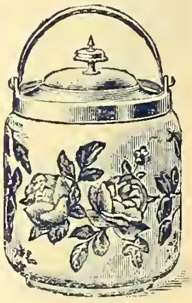

9875.—Fine Cut Glass, Carlton.

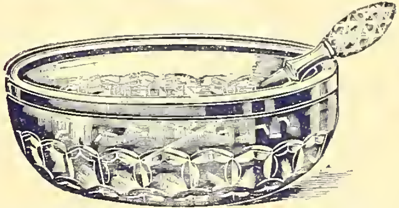

9869.—Cut Glass, New Hobnail.

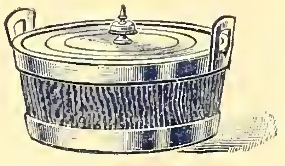

3696.—China Salad with helpers, Crown Derby Decoration.

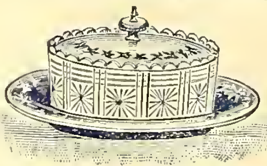

8756.—China Salad with helpers, Strawberry Leaves.

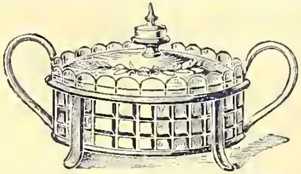

3782.—Oak Salad with helpers.

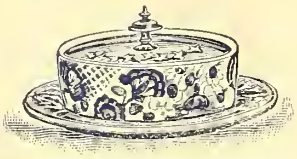

9774.—China Biscuit, English Hand-Painted.

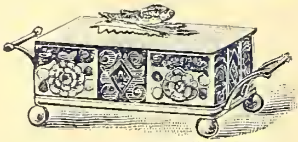

9402.—Salad Bowl with helpers, American Glass.

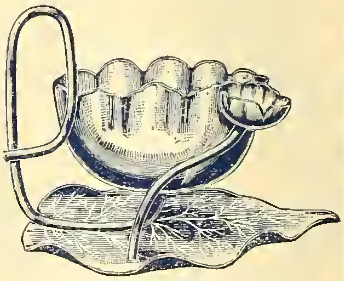

3427.—Oak Tub, Butter.


9486.—Butter Glass in two sizes.


9876.—Plaid Glass Butter, Pressed Ivy Cover.


8539.—China Butter, Crown Derby Decoration.


3824.—China Sardine, Crown Derby Decoration.


9368.—Lily Sugar Bowl, Gilt inside, and Sifter.

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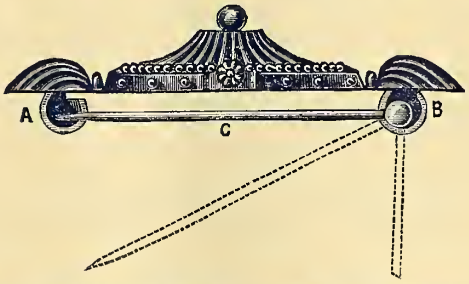

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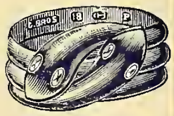

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Hall, John, & Co., Show-rooms, Princes' Chambers, Corporation-street, Birmingham.

ARTISTIC SILVER SUNDRIES.

Pringle, Robert, and Co., actual Makers (not merely Factors), at their Steam Works, 40 and 42, Clerkenwell-road. Children's Cans, Salt Cells and Spoons, Serviette Rings, Apostle and Coffee Spoons, Cups, Goblets, Mustard Pots and Spoons; Muffineers, Cream Jugs, Sugar Basins, Tea Spoons, Medals, and Alberts, duty free. Old Gold and Silver bought in any quantity for melting at the highest market price. Silver Goods sent out on approbation.

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BOXES AND CASES.

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Swingewood, Albert, 81, Caroline-street, Birmingham.

BULLION DEALERS.

Johnson, Walker and Tolhurst, 80, Aldersgate street, E.C.

Plucknett, C. J., & Co., 29, Poland-street, London, W.

BUSINESS AGENTS.

Box, F. B., 64, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Poppleton, G. G., C.A., 26, Corporation-street, Birmingham.

BRONZES, &c.,

Gay, E., Lamaille and Co., Charterhouse-street, E.C.

CHAINS.

Leake, C., 9, Horton's Buildings, Branston-street, Birmingham.

Reading, N. C., and Co., 186, Warstone-lane, Birmingham.

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Patent Archimedian Ring Sizing Tool,

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Tools purchased previous to this advertisement can have the improvements added at a small cost. A whole town can be supplied from a small stock of rings, whilst those possessing large stocks can avoid the delay and expense incurred by sending rings away to be altered.

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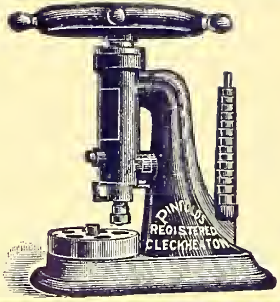

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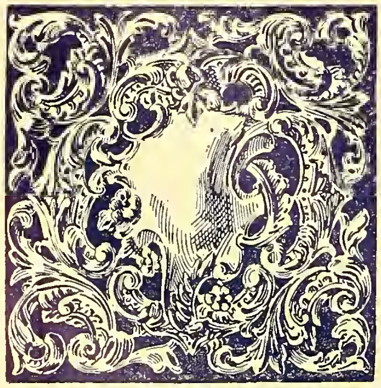

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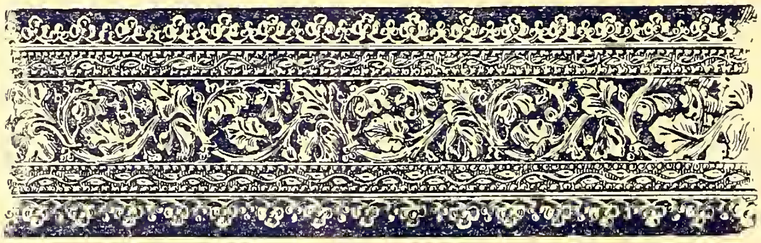

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Armstrong, T., and Bros., 4, St. Mary-street, Manchester.
Evans, W. F., and Sons, Soho Clock Foundry, Birmingham.
Fattorini and Sons, Bradford.
Gay, E., Lamaille and Co., Charterhouse-street, E.C.
Haycock, W., Church-street, Ashbourne.
Smith, John, and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby.
Swinden and Sons, 27, 28, 29, Temple-street, Birmingham.

CLOCK REPAIRS.

Armstrong, Adam L., 45, Stamshaw-road, Portsmouth.

COIN MOUNTS.

Light and Witcomb, 8, Augusta-street, Birmingham.

COMPASSES.

Barker, Francis, and Son, 12, Clerkenwell-road, London, E.C. (See advertisements. Pages as in index.)

CUTLERY.

Vale, William, and Sons, Unett Works, 83, Unett-street, Birmingham.

CYCLES.

Coventry Cycle Manufacturing Co., Grove Works, Coventry.
Newsome and Co., Butts, Coventry.
Reform Cycle Co., Coventry.

DRESSING BAGS AND CASES.

Chapman, Son and Co., 2, Charterhouse-buildings, Aldersgate, London.

DIAL PAINTING AND WRITING.

Armstrong, Adam L., 45, Stamshaw-road, Portsmouth.
Thwaites Bros., 25, St. John Street-road, London.

DIAMONDS.

Backes and Strauss, 15 and 16, Holborn Viaduct.
Johnson, Walker and Tolhurst, 80, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
Gray, W. M., and Co., 7, Hatton-garden E.C.

DIAMOND CUTTING, &c.

Ford and Wright, 116, Clerkenwell-road, London.

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Grueber, H., 37, Snow Hill, E.C.

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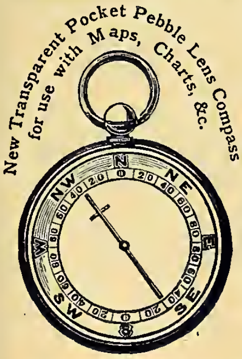

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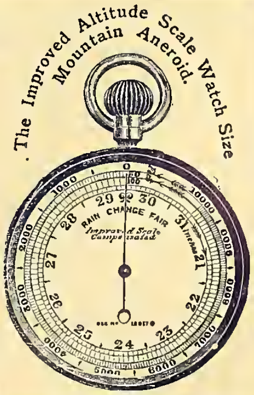

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Smith, T., and Co., 10, Percival-street, Goswell-road, London.

Sturtevant, T. T., 92, Clerkenwell-road London, E.C.

Wilkins, J., and Co., 11, St. John Street-road, London, E.C.

King, John W., 13, St. John's-square, Clerkenwell.

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Hill, Thos., and Co, 50, Spon-end, Coventry.

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King, John W., 13, St John's-square, Clerkenwell.

Pendleton, W., & Sons, 19, Northampton-street Birmingham.

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Griffiths, A. G., 4, Hylton-street, Birmingham.

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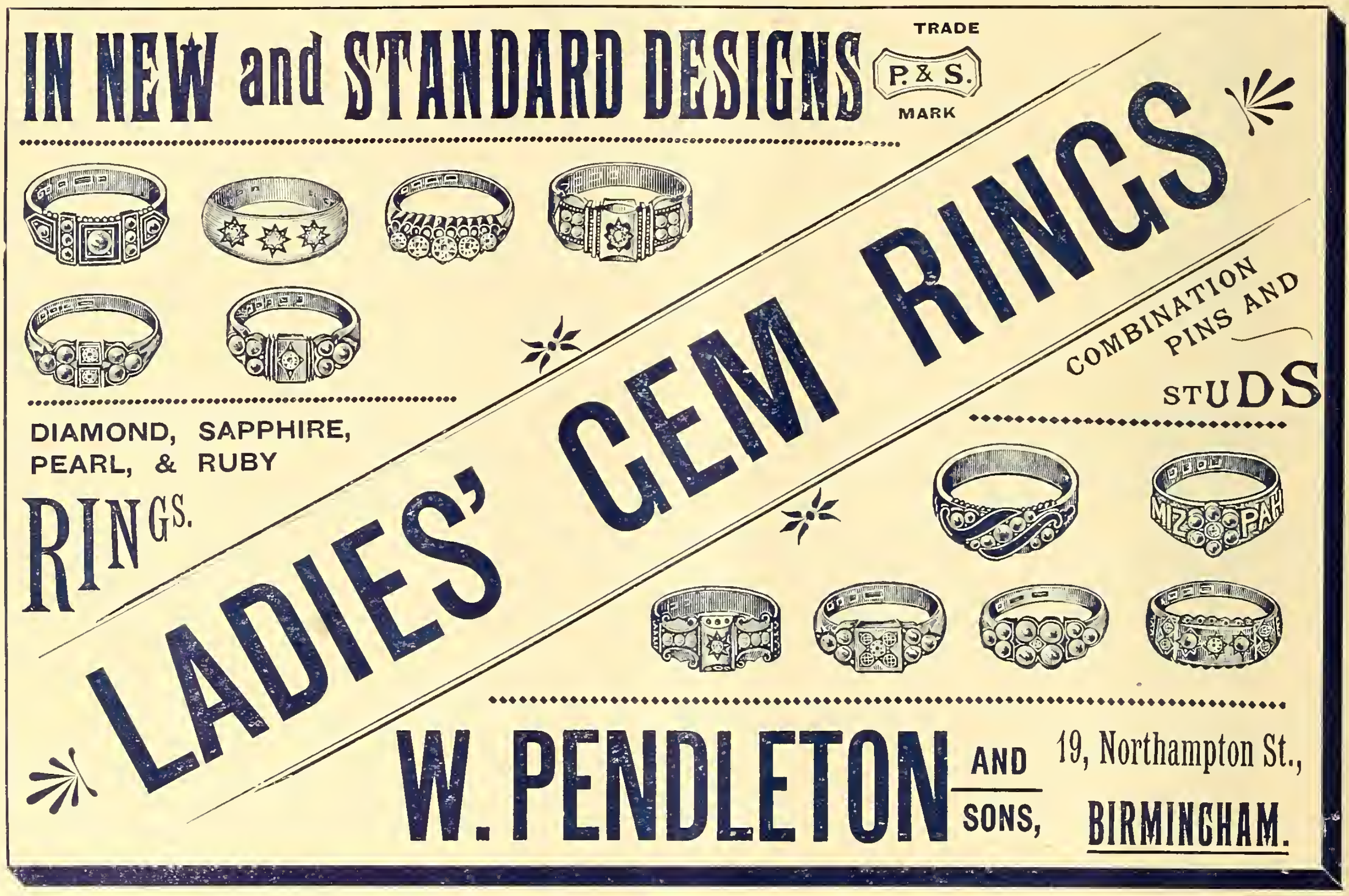
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Lucas. Bros. Ltd., 22, Hylton-street, Birmingham.

JET ORNAMENTS.

Langdale Isaac, 7, Caroline-street, Birmingham.
Sawdon, W., 17, Bridge-street, Whitby.

JEWEL CASES.

Goering, J. H., 20, Hylton-street, Birmingham.

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Appleby, Alfred, and Co., 124, Vyse-street, Birmingham.
Blanckensee, S., and Son, Ltd., 14 and 15, Frederick-street, Birmingham.
Carter, H., 45, Augusta-street, Birmingham
Cooper, A., 179, Warstone-lane, Birmingham.
Cox, W. F., 14, Hull-street, Birmingham.
Ginder, Bros., 47, Frederick-street, Birmingham.
Jenkins, A. J., 36, Regent-parade, Birmingham,
Johnson, Walker, & Tolhurst, 80, Aldersgate-st.
Joseph, B. H., and Co., 20, Frederick-street, Birmingham.
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Pendleton, W., & Sons, 19, Northampton-street, Birmingham.
Phelps, Bros., 50, Spencer-street, Birmingham.
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Siegele and Bennett, 11, Charterhouse-street, London.
Starling, J. H., 7, Augusta-street, Birmingham.
Wall, T., 90, Vittoria-street, Birmingham.

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Gray, E., and Sons, 46 and 47, Clerkenwell-green, London.
Woolf, Henry, 17, Worcester-street, Birmingham.
King, John W., 13, St. John's-square, Clerkenwell, E C.

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Carter and Co., 89, Vyse-street, Birmingham.
Cooper, H. J., and Co., Limited, 22, Thavies Inn, London.
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Kirkham and Worster, 18, Clerkenwell-road, London.
Sydenham, A., 26, Frederick-street, Birmingham.
Scott, Adolph, 49, Vyse-street, Birmingham.
Walter, W. H., 31, Newgate-street, London.
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Moore, Joseph, Pitsford-street, Vyse-street, Birmingham.
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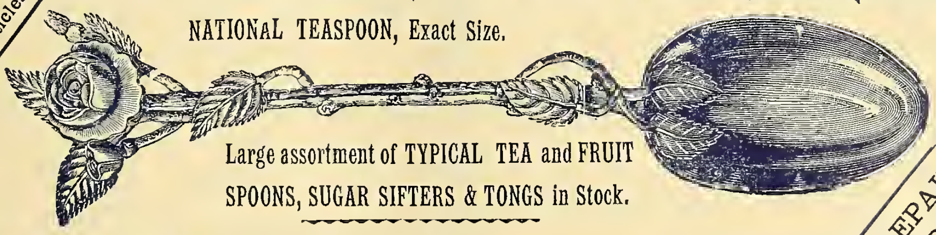

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Carter, H., 45. Augusta-street, Birmingham.

MUSICAL BOXES.

Paillard, C., and Co., 62, Holborn Viaduct. London.
Welll and Co., 3, Holborn-circus, London, E.C.

NOVELTIES.

Barnett, A. P., 50, Northampton-street, Birmingham.
Chapman, Son, and Co. 2, Charterhouse-buildings, London, E.C.
Jenkins, A. J., 36, Regent's-parade, Birmingham.

OILS.

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OPTICIANS, WHOLESALE.

Aston, T., and Son, 90, Spencer-street, Birmingham.
Botwright and Grey, 13, Spencer-street, E.C.
Braham, O., 3, Sekforde-street, London.
London and Paris Optic and Clock Company, 7, Jewin-street, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
Taylor, J. and H., 49, Tenby-street N., Birmingham.

PASTE GOODS.

Loveridge and Co., 66, Spencer-street, Birmingham.

PATENT BROOCH.

Langdale, Isaac, 7, Caroline-street, Birmingham.

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PEDOMETERS.

Joannot, P. A., 5, Alpes, Geneva.

PHOTOGRAPHERS' APPARATUS.

Lancaster, James, and Son, Birmingham.

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Fridlander, Aug. A., 31, Hylton-street, Birmingham

REPAIRS.

Ahronsberg Bros., 37-39, Albion-street, Birmingham.
Leake, C., 9, Horton's-buildings, Branston-street, Birmingham.
Thorpe and Co., 31, King-street, Oldham.
Woolf, Henry, 17, Worcester-street, Birmingham.

RING SIZING TOOLS.

Pinfold, A. and G., Cleckheaton.

SAFES.

Brookes, J. and H., Cape Works, Birmingham.
Whitfield, F., and Co., Oxford-street, Birmingham.

SEALING WAX.

Craddock, J., and Co., Balsall Heath, Birmingham.

SILVERSMITHS, MANUFACTURING.

Hammond Creake and Co., St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.
Horton and Allday, 195, Warstone-lane, Birmingham
King and Sons, 222, Goswell-road, London.
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Pringle, Robert, and Co., 40, Clerkenwell-road, London.
Round, John, and Son, Ltd., Tudor Works, Sheffield,
Stokes and Ireland, 83, Great Hampton-street, Birmingham.
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Chapman, Son and Co., 2, Charterhouse-buildings, Aldersgate, London.

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Haynes, E. F., 48 and 49, Northampton-street, Birmingham.

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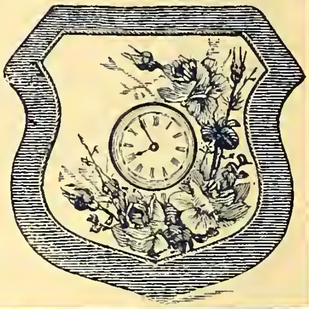
Barker, F., and Son, 12, Clerkenwell-road, London, E.C.

TOOLS.

Berend, O., and Co., 61, Fore-street, London, E.C.

Engagements



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And shall be pleased to quote and forward Samples on Application.
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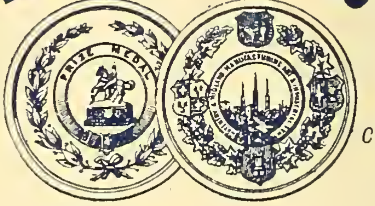

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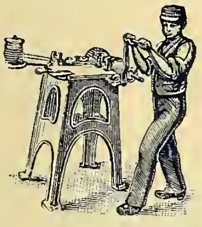

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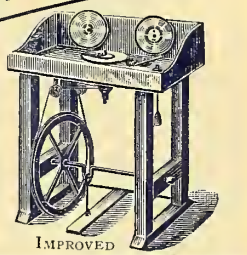

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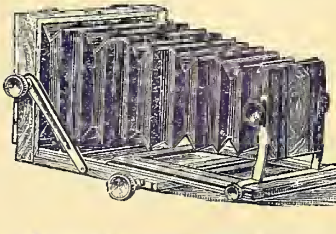

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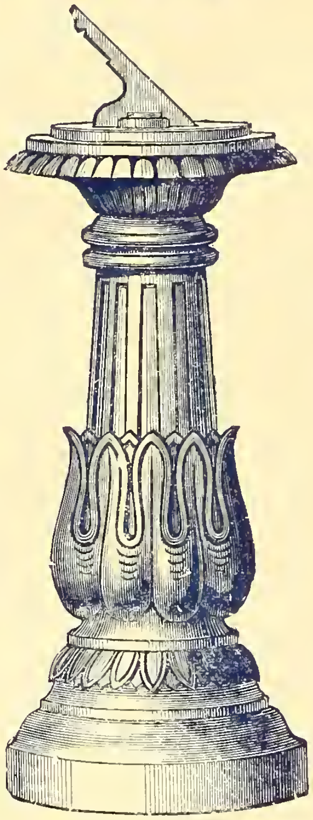

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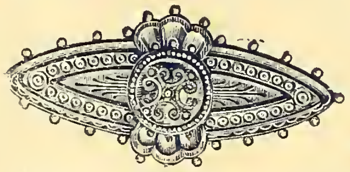

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On account of the repeated use of the Association for the above purposes, it has been thought advisable to form a distinct department for negotiating sales and purchases of businesses, introducing partners, capital, etc. Registers have therefore been opened, and those desirous of effecting any of the above-mentioned objects should at once communicate in confidence to the General Manager, G. G. POPPLETON, The Wholesale Jewelry and Fancy Trades' Association, 26, Corporation-street, Birmingham.

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Situation or Sale and Exchange Advertisements inserted under this heading are charged 6d. per line *(of seven words) if order is accompanied with remittance, otherwise they will be charged* 1s. per line. *Business Announcements are charged at* 1s. per line.

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PER ANNUM. **5/-** FREE BY POST.
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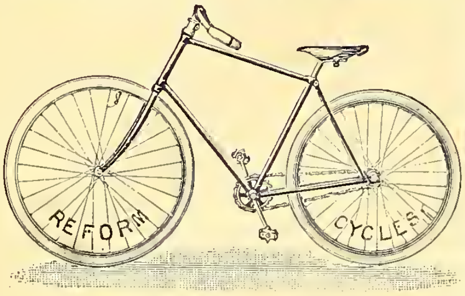

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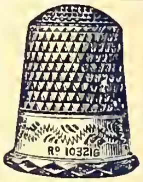

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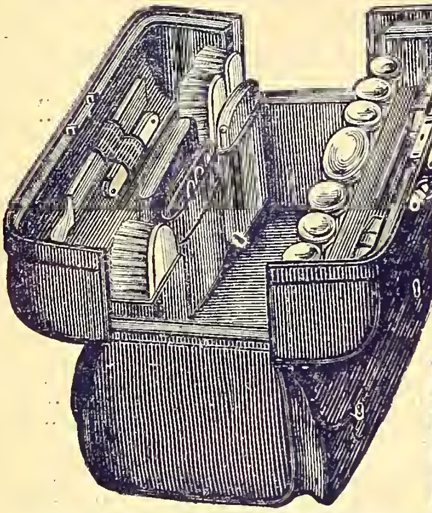

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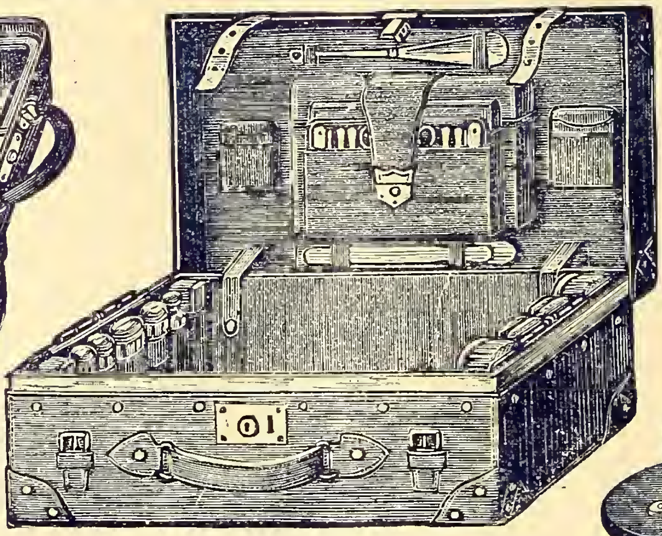

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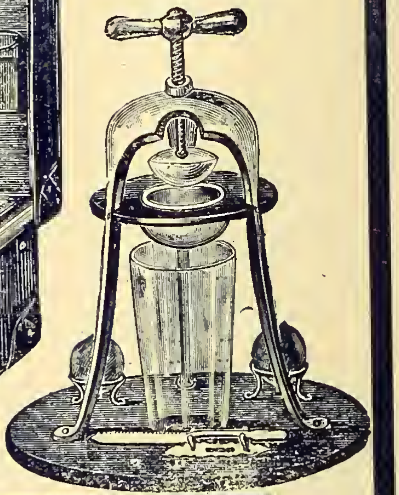

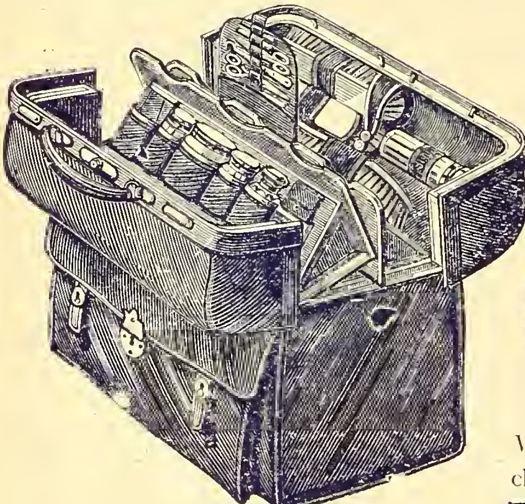

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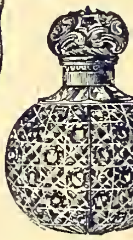

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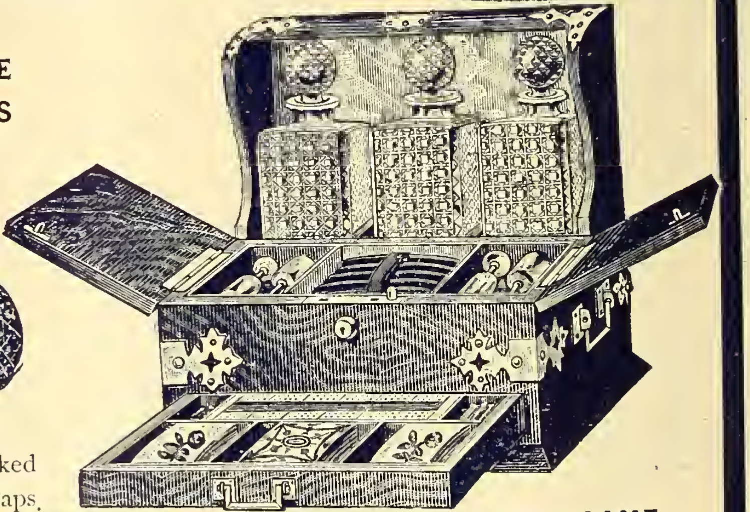

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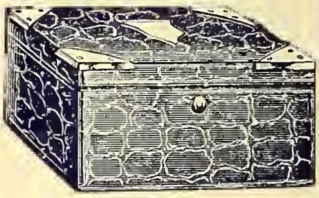

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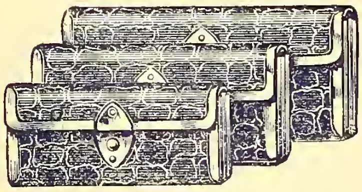

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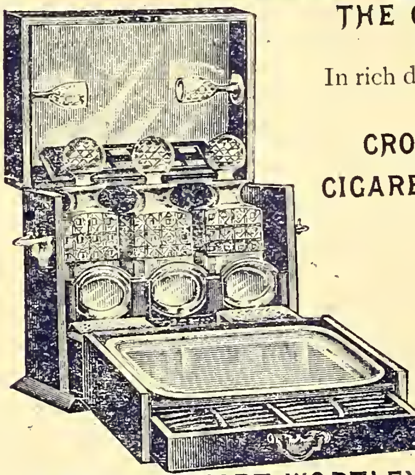

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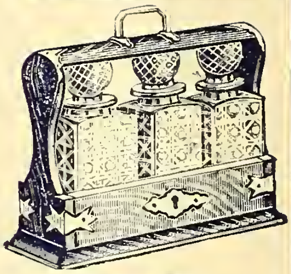

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The
Watchmaker, Jeweler and Silversmith.

Edited by W. J. LEWIS ABBOTT, F.G.S.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.] [*Registered for Transmission Abroad.*

Vol. XIX.—No. 2.] AUGUST 1, 1893. [Subscription, 5s. per Annum. Post Free. Single Copies, 6d.; 7½d. by Post.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Owing to the great pressure of Advertisements this month, we regret that it has again been found necessary to postpone the Title Page and Index to Volume XVIII., which was completed with the June number. We hope to send it out with the next issue.

IN THE INTERESTS OF THE TRADE.

NO CUTTING PRICES!

Cutting prices are not allowed to be advertised in this Journal; and no prices of any kind can be permitted to appear except such as come under the following headings:—

(1) Retail or selling prices to the public.

(2) The prices of patented or registered articles, or special articles manufactured and sold by one firm alone.

(3) The prices of outfits, plants, tools, instruments, materials, publications, &c., intended for, or used by the trade.

The kindly co-operation of all advertisers is invited.

The Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith.
Published on the 1st of each month by the Proprietors,
HEYWOOD & COMPANY, LIMITED.
Head Offices: 68, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.
Branch Offices in BIRMINGHAM: PRINCES CHAMBERS, CORPORATION STREET.
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SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The Annual Subscription throughout the World is 5s., including postage; and it is payable in all cases in advance. Single current numbers are charged at 6d. each, 7½d. by post.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—There is a fixed printed tariff for trade advertisements, which will be forwarded on application. All prepaid situation and similar advertisements are inserted at 6d. per line (minimum 1s.). Name and Address in the Buyers' Guide, One Guinea per annum, payable in advance.

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS.—Manuscripts should be written clearly on one side of the paper only, and should in every case be accompanied by the name and address of the sender; where payment is expected, a definite statement to that effect should be made. The Editor cannot be responsible for missing MSS., but every care will be taken of copy submitted for consideration.

INQUIRIES.—Information is given, whenever possible, to inquirers, who are requested to assist by giving the fullest details of the matters to which their questions relate. In special cases replies will be given through the post, and for this purpose addressed and stamped envelopes must be supplied.

PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, & DESIGNS.—Arrangements have been made with an expert whereby subscribers to this journal can receive information respecting these free of charge. Letters of inquiry must be addressed to the Editor of The Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith, Patents, Trade Marks, and Designs Department, 68, Fleet-street, London, E.C., and must in every case contain stamped and directed envelope for reply.

ENTRE NOUS
HARPOCRATES.

By the Editor.

THE SILVER CRISIS.

Before going to press last month the silver crisis was upon us, but owing to the intense excitement which prevailed, more especially out of England, it was impossible to forecast which turn things would really take. It will be remembered that on more than one occasion the fixing of a definite value to the rupee has been suggested as a remedy for the grievous burden under which a greater part of India has been groaning. Indeed, only about a year ago Sir David Barbour and Lord Lansdowne both suggested it, in case of the failure of the Brussels Conference. But there were many factors and questions to be considered in the case. It was well known that the profligate price of legislation, the Sherman Act, which was passed in the interests of the American silver men, with a view of maintaining the price of the precious white metal against the interests of the rest of the world, must sooner or later be repealed, and with it 160,000,000 ounces or much more of the depreciated silver would be thrown on the market. Imagine for a moment the consequence upon India of such an action, with mints open for free coinage. The first thing to be done was naturally to close the Indian mints to the free coinage of silver. This, the Viceroy pointed out, was not to increase the silver value, but rather to prevent a further fall. It was further argued that the fixing of the price of the rupee would establish the foundations of commercial enterprise and prosperity between the two countries, and even the world at large, and would give a confidence obtainable by no other legislation. Then came the fixing of the value. Some time ago 1s. 3d. would have been about a market mean, when a rupee would have been about a quarter of a five-shilling dollar. The price fixed by the recent legislation is 1s. 4d.; fifteen rupees will thus equal one pound sterling. Naturally there is a diversity of opinion as to the working of this scheme, but, having read practically all that has been urged on both sides, we feel that the advocates of the above fixing the price of the rupee have the best of the argument. Silver is now practictically demonetised all over the world, and we really have a gold standard only. This, we have always maintained, appeared to us to be the system fraught with the fewest objections. Silver will henceforth, within certain limits, be treated as a commercial commodity. When the telegram arrived in America announcing the passing of the Indian Currency Act, a panic ensued unparalleled in the history of the money market, and silver fell in consequence, all over the world, over 8d. an ounce. Americans immediately recognised the folly of the—we were going to say iniquitous—Sherman Act, which has caused the Treasury to buy up 160,000,000 ounces of silver at a cost of 147,138,375 dollars, and which, on June 30th, were only worth about ninety-two million dollars, thus taking about fifty-five million dollars out of the pocket of the nation and putting it into the pockets of the silver men. It can only be expected that the realisation of this should have brought home the necessity of summoning Congress together to at once repeal this Act, which they now regard, in the words of the President, as largely to blame for "the distrust and apprehension concerning the financial situation which prevade all business circles, which have already caused great loss and damage to our people, and threaten to cripple our merchants, stop the wheels of our manufacturers, bring distress and privation on the farmers, and withhold from our workmen the wages of their labor." Accordingly Congress has been summoned to meet on the 6th inst. for this purpose. But what will they do with their accumulated hoard of depreciated metal?

THE PRICE OF SILVER IN THE FUTURE.

The last question in the foregoing article is one of great moment to the silversmith. We have again and again pointed out how the price of the precious white metal has fluctuated with the slightest alteration of the rate of exchange on India, so that the price of silver has not been a simple case of supply and demand. But this is practically altogether changed now. Only on the 2nd ult. we saw the effect of this new state of things. Upon the receipt of the Indian news it was decided to shut down a large number of mines in America, Chili, and Australia. Indeed we might remark that very few mines in the world, except the marvellous Broken Hill mines of Australia, can produce silver at a profit at 30d.. The result of this general shutting down was that the metal went up 3½d., and with a demand from China it rose to 34¾d, so that already we see a fluctuation taking place, irrespective of the current rate of exchange, upon the similar basis to that of other metals—viz., supply and demand. And this brings us to a vital question. Granting the repeal of the Sherman Act, what will America do with her accumulated hoard? It might, perhaps, also be asked, what will become of the 54,000,000 ounces per annum which the American Government will now cease to buy? Will that be thrown upon the market? Of this latter we need not fear, as a very great deal of it comes from low grade ores which cannot now be worked at all. Consequently the mine supply of silver to the market will be brought to a minimum, and this will allow the American Government to slowly disburden itself of the inheritance of its party legislature. But the best thing the Government can do, not only to inspire confidence in the metal market, but also to obtain a good market value for its metal, is to pass an Act limiting the sale of silver to a certain number of ounces per month; otherwise no one will be sure that at any moment the market will not, without warning, be flooded with supply. We must not forget also that France has large quantities of silver stored up, which, together with the American supply, would last the world for many years at its present rate of consumption. It must not be considered that India has adopted a gold standard and can do without the rest of the world; she probably does not produce more than a million of silver per annum, although she requires about eight. Her wants will ever form a demand upon the market. There is also a great increase of the use of silver in the arts, not in this country only since the repeal of the tax, but in other countries where the tax is out of the question.

In attempting to forecast the future of the price of silver, we must bear in mind the following facts:—First, we have only a very limited number of mines indeed that can produce silver at 33d. Second, we have a universal growing demand for the use of silver in the arts. Against this we have the immense accumulations of America and France, but, if the latter are only judiciously put upon the market, there is no reason to anticipate a further fall.

THE ASSIGNMENT OF BOOK DEBTS.

Few outside Birmingham have the slightest idea of the great amount of work done by the Birmingham Jewelers' Association, and there are many even in the Jewel Metropolis who do not keep themselves abreast of its working. Recently, we are informed, a bankruptcy case transpired in which, by the clever interposition and action of the Association, the creditors were saved about £1,000. This was a case of assigning book debts, and was of such a nature that the assignee bank was glad to relinquish its claim rather than allow the Association to pursue the course they threatened to adopt. Those who take an interest in what best concerns their business are aware that for the last two years our trade champion, Mr. J. W. Tonks, has brought forward this question at the Associated Chamber of Commerce. In the first year it appeared that the bankers were one too many for him. In March last the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce again brought it up, when he secured a majority of two-thirds. The question is now being taken up by the President of the Associated Chambers, Sir Albert Rollit, with the Lord Chancellor, who, as our readers are aware, has a Bill in progress for the consolidation of the Bills of Sale Acts, and as soon as the Bill reaches the proper stage in Parliament, on behalf of the Council of the Associated Chamber of Commerce Sir Albert will insist that assignments of book debts and also debentures of limited companies shall be duly registered, as are bills of sale. These are matters of the greatest importance to the trade, as well as to the rest of the commercial world; they are results which would probably never have been achieved by individuals; and for the immunity from the evil of the present state of things in the future the rest of the commercial world will have to thank the jewelers. It is a splendid example of the manner in which all, or the greater part of, our legal evils may be remedied, and we shall be glad to see the members of the London Association exerting themselves on behalf of the interests of the trade in even a more energetic manner than their brethren in Birmingham. There is much to be done in many directions, and upon what is done rests—whether we realise it or not—the future of our trade. There is infinitely more connected with a trade industry than making a sale across the counter to people who, at present, know but very little of what they are buying. The stability and future of a trade is not to be inferred by the number of sales being made in it today, but from the harmony existing in its organisation for reducing all friction, both internal and external, and the developing of productions competent to stand against all united efforts that are made against them from without.

Another New Turret Clock for Cheltenham.—A clock with two large dials and striking hours has been erected during the past week on the tower of Holy Trinity Church, Cheltenham, by Messrs John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It is fitted with all the latest improvements, and is guaranteed by the makers to maintain true time with great accuracy. The same firm made the clock at All Saints' Church, Cheltenham.

MARKETS.

Diamonds.

London, July 28th.—The prices of diamonds are practically unaltered, nor do I see any prospect or even possibility of their being any cheaper so long as prices are maintained at the mines. Advices from Kimberley state that purchases are dated ahead at even increased rates. Large buyers appear very anxious to get hold of the rough material even when there does not appear a margin for profit, as owing to the quietness of trade bargains are driven harder than ever. During the first part of the month there were extra demands for good stuff, which fell off as the month went on.

Amsterdam, July 26th.—Our market for polished diamonds and also for Kapjes has been exceedingly dull during the whole of the month, nor can the demand for rough be said to be much better. Many of our more enterprising buyers return home from London with large parcels, in full expectation of making a good profit, and although the cutting is conducted with the utmost economy of wages, and the minimum loss of weight, by the time they reach the market the price they realise does not cover cost. If this goes on much longer it will be fatal to the diamond trade, as numerous workmen are leaving the trade, and if this continues Amsterdam will lose one of its great industries.

Paris, July 26th.—Although the city has been very full, and large and important pieces of work in process of manufacture, the diamond trade has been very indifferent during the month. At the early part there was a little more, which was considered to be due to the marriage of the Duke of York. Since then things have again receded.

Silver.

Owing to an impetus given to the market consequent upon the closing down of a large proportion of silver mines there was a great rise in the price of the metal, on the 1st of the month to 33½d., and with the continued demand from China 34¾d. was reached. Since then the prices have fluctuated with demand, but only slightly, the greatest one being on the 6th ult., which was in sympathy with the New York market, when silver fell to 33d. It was not till the 20th that this price was passed in the downward grade, when it stood at 32¾d., gradually declining to 32⅛d. On going to press it is 32⅜d.

Tin.

The Cornish metal experienced a rise in the early days of the month of from £82 to £84; it soon fell again to £83, and on the 11th ult. its pounds figures were eighty-two. Its shillings have since varied, sometimes almost disappearing.

Copper.

The red metal has been fairly constant, commencing at £43 10s., declining gently to £42 15s., about which price it has since hovered.

Spelter.

Spelter has been exceptionally steady at about £17 15s. all the month.

Quicksilver.

The mobile metal has been absolutely stationary at £6 17s. 6d.

"Painted Diamonds."—The *Pawnbrokers' Gazette* of the 15th ult. cautions the trade that a man, about five feet six inches in height, fair, dressed in dark blue serge suit, is offering cluster diamond rings, which lose their lustre in a few days, and are probably painted with chemicals.

OUR SPECIAL PLATE.

1. Diamond bracelet with heart centre, the latter to have for centre either chrysoprase, turquoise, or opal.
2. Gem bracelet in diamonds and sapphires or diamonds and pearls. Stones could be varied to suit taste.
3. Convertible tiara-necklet, in diamonds and any other suitable gem, such as turquoise, pearls, or chrysoprase.
4. Carved gold ptarmigan pin.
5. Lady jockey pin in carved moonstone.
6. Carved gold quail pin.
7. Louis XIV. hair pin in diamonds and colored gems.
8. Louis XIV. sword hair pin in diamonds, enamel, and colored gems.
9. Diamond and ruby dress ring.
10. Classic diamond border brooch, with moonstone cameo of Andromeda and Perseus.
11. Diamond and sapphire dress ring.
12. Double heart, love's arrows, and the brooch in diamonds and pearls.
13. Carved gold pointer pin.
14. Double heart and tie gem brooch.
15. Necklet in enamels, diamonds, and pearls.
16. Double heart, Cupid's bow and arrow and knot as brooch, in diamonds, rubies, and gold.
17. Fan and bouquet brooch in diamonds and colored gems, the bouquet being in various hues.

Liverpool Watchmakers' and Jewelers' Association.

Recently an organisation meeting in connection with the above association, was presided over by Mr. W. Watkin, J.P. The attendance was unencouraging so far as numbers are concerned, but when the objects of the association are better known perhaps its muster roll will swell out. The chairman said it was a standing disgrace to their trade, not only in Liverpool, but throughout the country, that they should be so low in the standard of organisation as they were at the present time: he was afraid there was a great amount of apathy existing amongst the workers in the watchmaking and jewelry trade, otherwise they would have come that evening in larger numbers. He did not know any branch of labor which required organisation as much as their own industry, and if they did not bestir themselves they would always be in the mire. They had sufficient evidence, he thought, during the past few years as to what could be gained by organisation. Without organisation it would be of very little good for men to try to mend their condition, because other people would come along and under-cut them. (Applause.) The resolution: "That this meeting pledges itself to continue the agitation amongst watchmakers, jewelers, and other branches combined with the trade, and we therefore hope to bring into existence a society by which our workmen can secure fair wages and proper hours of labor," was proposed by Mr. A. E. Newcomb, seconded by Mr. W. G. Blunt, and duly carried, and a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

A Scientist on the Artificial Production of Gems.—Sir John Evans, in his presidential address to the Society of Chemical Industry, lately delivered at Liverpool, in speaking of the wonderful strides made in the science of chemistry, observed he "might just glance at the attempts that had been made to produce artificially some of the precious stones that occur in nature. Rubies had been manufactured, not indeed such as could rank as gems, but still such as would serve to 'jewel' the pivot holes of watches; and although the results of attempts to produce the crystallised form of carbon which was known as the diamond had as yet had but doubtful success, it did not appear that the prospect of producing genuine diamonds under combined heat and pressure was absolutely hopeless." When it is remembered that Sir John is a practical business man, and usually rather conservative in his ideas, we may strengthen our hopes of the possibilities of the laboratory.

Notes About Town

(By Our London Correspondent.)

The little flutter caused by the Royal Wedding is now a thing of the past. A very large share of the providing of the presents fell to the lot of some of the branches of our trade, but whether things were managed with that impartiality which might be expected to characterise the actions of Royalty, to whom all subjects are equal, I leave for others to settle. In the early days of the evolution of ethics and morality it was considered right to visit the sins—and favors—of the fathers upon the children, a principle the relics of which still linger on.

On the other hand, there are many people who maintain with the dealers in black diamonds that "one good ton deserves another," and I suppose if I were connected with a certain house I should feel I was quite entitled to the overwhelming proportion of competitions that by "strange coincidences of fortune" fell to my share. No doubt the whole trade tried very hard to secure the wedding orders, but all could not get them. Still the gifts, coming from so many quarters, upon the whole got fairly well distributed; and a perusal of the names in the cases of the Royal presents evinces the fact that the trade is fairly well represented.

I should like to give a description of the wedding presents, or, at least, the most important of them, but I suppose I should not be spared the room. I should advise all the trade to take the opportunity of paying a visit to the Imperial Institute, where they are on view. Some idea of their number may be gathered from the fact that they extend the whole of the length from one side of the Institute buildings to the other, while the pictures and tapestries occupy other galleries. A catalogue has now been published, which gives a short description of the articles and the names of the donors. When we visited the collection last, the proofs of the catalogue were just being revised. In most instances a description from the invoices accompanied the article for the private purpose of cataloguing, which, as one might imagine, frequently contained a number of adjectives which the compiler felt called upon to delete. These descriptions were not shown to the public, but I believe that one house in Bond-street which deals largely in "modern antiques," and endeavors to satisfy the craze for everything "old," supplied certain articles *en suite*. These by some means or other got into the proof catalogue as "fine old," but considering that the Royal monogram made up part of the design, the infidelity of those mystic words was too patent to be allowed to stand.

Amongst the gems there were certainly some superb specimens, while others suffered greatly by comparison. Diamonds, of course, formed the larger part; next, perhaps, in numbers came pearls, of which there were numerous fine specimens. Turquoises made a great display, and of these there were a goodly number of fine examples, although amongst them there was nothing remarkable in quality and certainly nothing extravagant in size. There were a few fine rubies and sapphires. Colored stones and enamels were also fairly represented, as well as the popular chrysoprase. As a collection of jewelry and articles of *vertu* it was very interesting, but nothing more than one would see in one of the best West End houses. Of course dozens of things were duplicated time after time, till one wonders what can be done with them, and we could not help feeling that it was a pity some organisation could not have been formed, and a united or national present made of something which nobody else has; say a tiara carrying one of our great diamonds, or something equally unique. It is certainly a little humiliating to realise that there are scores of ladies who have jewels with which nothing in the possession of England's future Queen can compare. Still no doubt the distribution of orders did good to the greatest number of persons.

The illuminations and decorations were certainly very fine, some of our trade displays being the best they ever attempted, but perhaps not made so much of as those of many trades which employed them more for advertisement. Although the Royal letters and arms formed a large part of the illuminated decorations, instances were not wanting of very fine, well-designed "set pieces," such, for instance, as that of Messrs. Chapple and Mantle, near Charing Cross Station.

The visit to the presents will probably serve to bring the Imperial Institute to the minds of many a thoughtful business man. I cannot say that I can speak in such laudable terms of the Institute as I could wish, as at present it is such a long way from what it might be. Entering the exhibits at the South African Courts, we find that Mr. Atkinson has been getting together an interesting exhibit so far as it goes. He has under his care several very large diamonds of three figures in weight, with a number of smaller ones; also a collection of the matrices of the diamond, and the curious "banket" and a few building stones. I suppose it is early days, so that even the assiduity of the curator, although getting together as good an exhibit as anyone, has not yet got anything like a representative series. They are, however, very interesting, and no curator throughout the whole institution is better versed in the products of his department; and it is certain that if every department was under as good a head the economic side would be developed and the Institute realise the ideal of some of its original advocates.

Passing from this court into others we then realise the difference. It would scarcely be believed that many of the Colonies do not show a single gem! From West Australia we have a few metals, but no gems; from the rich deposits of New South Wales we have only one little case containing a few specimens of diamond wash, and a few poor or very bad specimens of beryl, topaz, zircon, tourmalines, and black spinels, which, together with a few agates and common opals, are placed before the world as representative of one of the finest gem-producing countries in the world!

Another feature of interest and importance to the trade is the National Workmen's Exhibition now being held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. Although the gross number of entries are not so large as they have been on a similar occasion, the trade exhibits, which are displayed in Berners Hall, are well worth a visit. There is also a large exhibit of plate lent by the—well, I was naturally going to say Goldsmiths' Company, but I should have been wrong; that society which was founded to foster and protect our trade has chosen to protect its magnificent plate, and it is the Clothworkers' Company that makes the display.

I must also call the attention of the trade to the fact that Her Majesty the Queen has lent the exquisite gold model of the Albert Memorial, which is one of the, if not *the* very finest specimens of the goldsmith's art ever produced. I might mention that I overheard several of the first art critics of the day discussing it, and the one who is supposed to be one of the best informed men assured the other that it was simply impossible for the fine enamel work to have been done in this country. I smiled, as I had the pleasure of seeing this masterpiece almost daily during the nine months it took to execute.

Referring to the jewelry work, there are one or two of the best pieces of work, perhaps, one would ever see. A three stone "half-hoop," 15 B, is one of the finest pieces of carving imaginable; the stones are not set, nor the shank polished, which gives one a better opportunity to judge correctly of the merits of the work. It is the work of a trade foreman named Ives. This ring is run very hard by a diamond half-hoop, No. 33, made by Mr. Peglar. I believe both these men are in the employ of Messrs. Eady, Paris, and Eady. Messrs. Leber and Müller also send a case of fine work and designs, with the names of each workman attached, all of which are excellent, one or two pieces being exceptionally so.

A splendid display is made by Messrs. Byworth, in which at least one piece has created quite a stir amongst other workmen. There are also a number of specimens of apprentices' work of two and a-half and three and a-half years' service, which are remarkable. One would scarcely believe that such proficiency could be attained in so short a space of time.

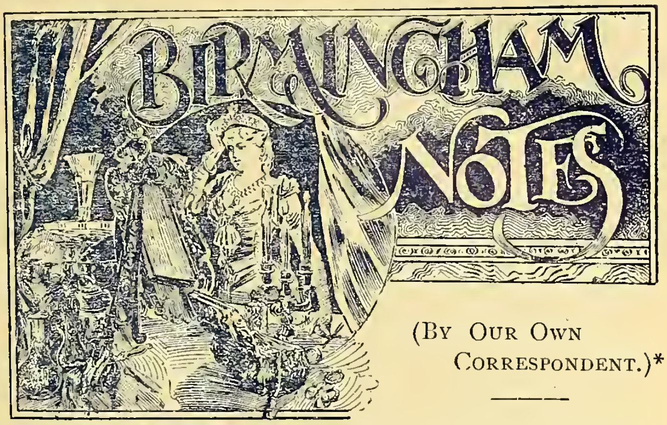
Talking about 'prentices reminds me of the fact that No. 35 B is half-a-dozen carved metal half-hoops, the work of one of Messrs. Eady, Paris, and Eady's lads, who has only been a few months at the work.

In lapidaries' work W. Newman, John Street-road, carries all before him; in the body of the hall he has his own machinery fitted, where there are two or three mills going, and exhibits of "gems from 2s. 6d. each." He also shows a new bench either for trade or amateur work, which contains several novel features, and is by far the best thing yet brought out. In Berners Hall his exhibit embraces a large quantity of gems, many of which are magnificent examples of the cutter's art. One of his apprentices, Mathews, takes first prize with a case of seven stones. A. S. Cameron, of Rose-street, Edinburgh, shows some excellent Scotch work, especially a fine crocidolite paper weight, which is at once both skilful and artistic.

There are numerous other things upon which I cannot touch this month, such as modelling, chasing, engraving, coloring, and carving, as well as whole branches of our trade. I also find there is a number of items about town trade; what is being done; the state of trade; what is the newest thing on the market, about which I ought to say something but which I must leave.

There is just one thing, however, that I consider so phenomenal as to make me single it out from all that must be left unsaid. This is the success which during the last month or so has attended the introduction of the new "Oriental self-fitting" bracelet. I have seen this bracelet put into the windows of the largest houses in the trade, in which I never before remember seeing jewelry displayed. In this bracelet the stones are collet-set upon an undulating wire, so that they appear like two rows of gems about a quarter of an inch apart. The bracelet can be easily passed over a hand of any size, and will then fit firmly on the wrist without any fastening.

The Pneumatic Tyre.—The Beeston Pneumatic Tyre Company (Ltd.) has been formed with a capital of £60,000, in £1 shares, to work the invention of Thomas Humber, of Beeston, Notts, with benefit of several other improvements. After all, no wonder so many watchmakers turn to the cycle trade.



BIRMINGHAM NOTES

(By Our Own Correspondent.)*

The summer month of July is invariably a quiet time with the Birmingham jewelers. As a rule the wholesale travellers are all out in the country trying to dispose of their stocks, and consequently there are but few chances of the local manufacturers selling their goods. An occasional order from some more fortunate traveller who has sold out of a certain line will arrive to cheer the expectant maker, but speaking generally it is a month of inactivity and waiting; and, if possible, it has been even worse than usual this year, there being more waiting and fewer orders than the average. The next milestone, so to speak, for the Birmingham trade is the August Bank Holiday, and no improvement whatever is expected until that is over. Whether there will be any great buying then is still a matter of doubt. The reports from the country are by no means encouraging, and those travellers who are out are not finding much business. Consequently there is not much chance for the manufacturing trade here to dispose of their surplus stock. So far as I can tell they will have to await the result of the autumn journeys before they will reap much of a harvest from the factors. On every hand the home trade seems in a very bad state.

The shipping orders, too, are not coming in with their usual regularity. In former years we have looked for a recommencement of the export trade during July, but so far there has been no sign of the usual spurt. The unsatisfactory state of the financial market throughout the best portions of the purchasing world is quite sufficient to explain this falling off in the orders, and so long as general trade is so bad abroad we cannot expect, nor do we exactly wish, for the usual run of orders. To send over large quantities of goods just now would probably be to lose money.

The only safe market just at present seems to be South Africa. Those who know the conditions obtaining there say there is every prospect of a large and satisfactory trade being done in the near future. There may thus be a chance of recouping, to some extent, the losses made there some years ago.

By-the-bye, what has become of the Canadian trade? Time was when Canada formed one of our best export markets, but during the last few years there has been a steady decline in the value of the orders received from there. Are they making all they require on the spot; or has the enterprising Yankee undertaken to keep them fully stocked up. Whatever be the cause, there is no mistake about the fact that the orders do not find their way here like they used to do. There is a matter of five or six large buyers, whose advent used to be looked for as regularly as the months came round, who seem to be taking longer and longer intervals between their visits; while there are some who, I am am afraid, have ceased to visit us at all. This all means loss of trade, and increased competition in the home trade for keeping our returns up.

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*We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

I AM sorry to have to report that an old Birmingham firm, Messrs. Platnauer Brothers, have been forced to consult their creditors. For many years prominent in the Birmingham trade, they some three years ago removed their centre to Bristol, Unfortunately they have not prospered so well since then, and have at last been obliged to suspend payment. Their circular holds out hopes of an ultimate payment of 20s. in the £, but it is impossible to say at present whether this will be realised. Their creditors' meeting is called for August 1st. Many of our local manufacturing houses are interested, some of them to a large extent.

THERE seems to be no end to the vagaries in the value of silver. Up and down it goes with no regard to the lacerated feelings of the dealings in, and users of, the white metal. The serious fall in value is a matter of great inconvenience to those people who hold large stocks of it, whether in bulk or made up. Much concern is felt here as to what will be its ultimate and fixed position, the little men, without capital, especially being anxious about it.

ONE of our manufacturers made a fine set of jeweled and enamelled links, with a patent action, for presentation to the Duke of York on his wedding. One side bore a "May" bough richly enamelled in true colors, and the other side the initial and coronet set with diamonds and rubies.

THE dividend bills in the matter of George Bayliss have been distributed by the trustee. The amount represents 15s. in the £.

FOR the second time within six weeks the premises in Frederick-street occupied by Messrs. J. Blanckensee and Co., and Messrs. Kirwan and Co., have been broken into during the dinner hour. In the former instance the thieves seem to have been disturbed, and not much damage was done. This time, however, they seem to have got well to work, and ransacked the places pretty thoroughly. Fortunately, however, there were not many valuables lying about, and their utmost find was a few cigars, which doubtless they appreciated. Several oddments of value which were exposed seem to have escaped attention.

THE half-yearly meeting of the Birmingham Jewelers' and Silversmiths' Association was held at the Assay Office on June 26th. Several matters of importance were discussed, the chief being the assignment of book debts as security. The Lord Chancellor had been memorialised with the object of getting some clause dealing with this matter introduced into the Bills of Sale Act. The report of the Art and Technical Schools showed that the attendance of scholars and the work done were most satisfactory. The present strength of the association stands at 187, six new firms having joined, and eight having resigned.

THE matter of proper night watchmen for the jewelry district has occupied some little attention on the part of the parties interested since the exposure of the man Jones. Various schemes had been separately mentioned, but nothing definite was being done. At last the association took the matter up and arranged with the police authorities of the city for a regular supply of officials to give undivided attention to the quarter. This action ought to insure safety throughout the night.

Two sales have taken place during the month. The effects of Mr. F. Venour have come to the hammer for the benefit of his creditors. Mr. S. Wood, of Northampton-street, who is retiring from business, has disposed of his shop, tools, and effects by auction.

Tickets and Ticket Writing.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from page 29.)

HOW LETTERS SHOULD BE FORMED,

In studying the formation of the letters or Roman alphabet, the following facts, or rules, must be kept in mind:

1. Letters are composed of straight lines and curves.
2. Lines are of two thicknesses, called respectively, thin and thick.
3. All thick lines are invariably the *same width in every letter* of the given case, a characteristic shared by the thin ones.
4. All up-strokes and cross-lines should be fine, and down-strokes thick, and of a constant width or thickness throughout their entire length.
5. A curve at its commencement being a cross-line should begin thin, gradually thickening as it approaches the vertical, and decrease in thickness as it again assumes the horizontal, with the exception of the curves in the letters S and g, and those in the figure 8.
6. There is a constant proportion to one another in each of their parts. The height always bears a certain proportion to the width, which is always the same for the same letter; and differs little in any of them.

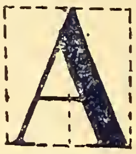


FIG. 15.

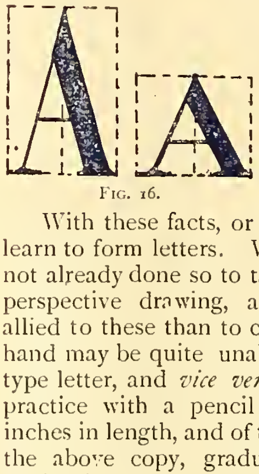


FIG. 16.

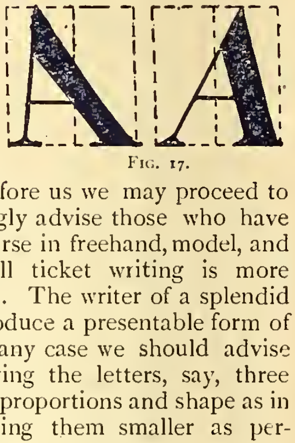
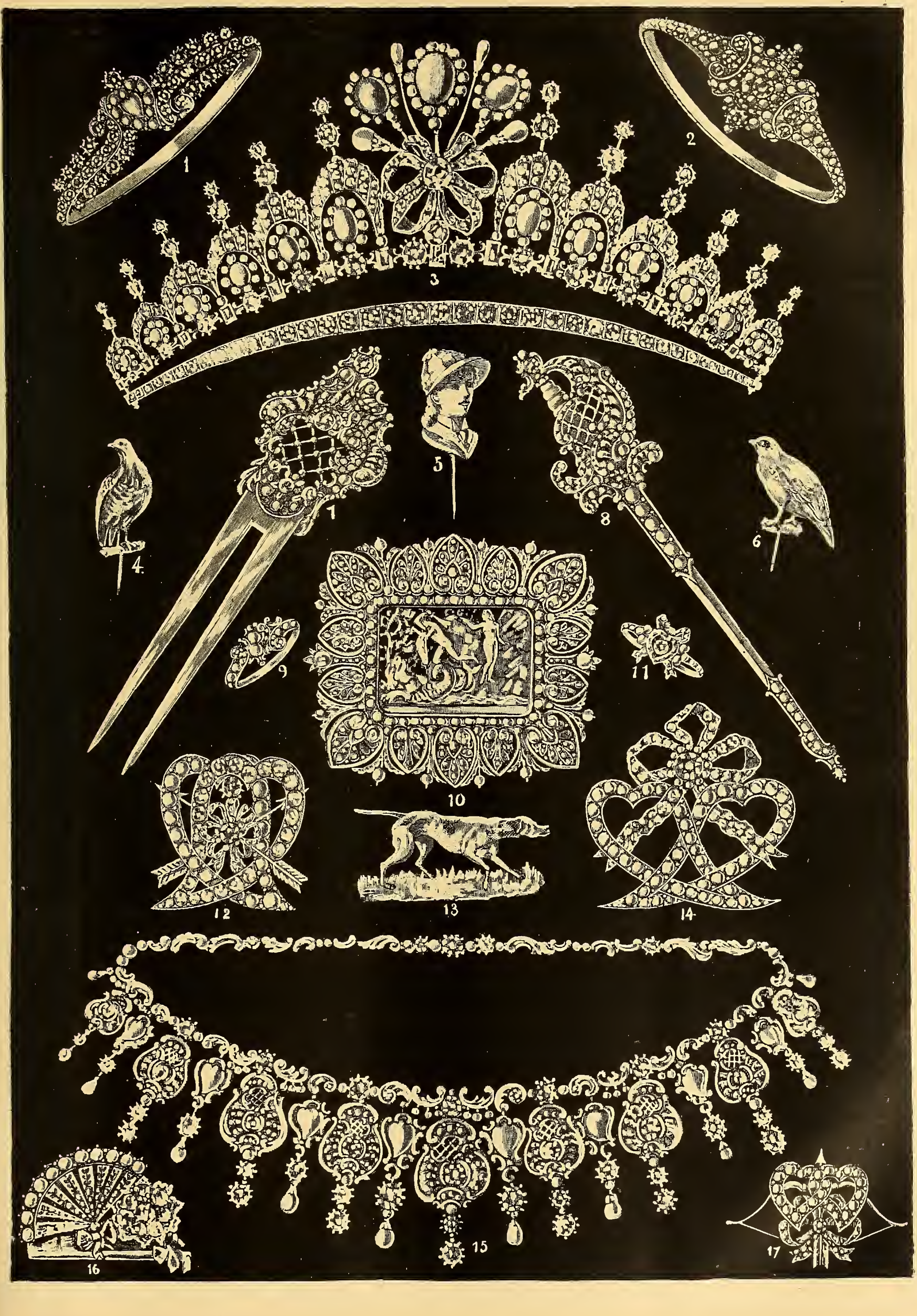


FIG. 17.

With these facts, or rules, before us we may proceed to learn to form letters. We strongly advise those who have not already done so to take a course in freehand, model, and perspective drawing, as after all ticket writing is more allied to these than to caligraphy. The writer of a splendid hand may be quite unable to produce a presentable form of type letter, and *vice versa.* In any case we should advise practice with a pencil by drawing the letters, say, three inches in length, and of the exact proportions and shape as in the above copy, gradually getting them smaller as perfection is acquired. Care must be taken that the down-strokes are all of the same thickness throughout their entire length, and that the up-strokes are a single line. Of course, there is no rule to compel one to begin at the bottom to make the so-called up-strokes. On the contrary, they should be formed from the top downwards. By our last rule we see there is a constant relation between the length and the width of the letters—*i.e.*, that the letters are inscribed in a given rectangular.

THE LETTER A.—Fig. 15 shows us the letter thus inscribed within a rectangle, by which we see the relation of the horizontal to the vertical extension. If we wish to make this letter a larger size we must inscribe it in a rectangle of the same proportions, and not as in Fig. 16. In each of the instances here shown the ratios vary. By-and-bye we shall see how letters can be "extended" or "compressed" to either of these proportions, but then the modifications must be effected on recognised laws, which we shall subsequently explain.

(To be continued.)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Sheffield
Notes

(By Our Own Correspondent.)*

Mr. Benjamin Folsom, who has discharged the duties of American Consul in Sheffield for the last six years, will shortly, owing to a change of administration in the United States Civil Service, have to take his departure from our midst. The period over which Mr. Folsom's term of office has extended has been one in which the discharge of the consular duties has been of a most difficult and delicate character. Mr. Folsom, however, is the happy possessor of social qualities which have made for him during his sojourn among us many warm friends. These he invited to dine with him at the Cutlers' Hall, on the 4th of July, that day upon which, as he remarked, it is customary for prominent Americans to inflict a speech upon as many innocent persons as can be induced to listen to them. Mr. Folsom's speech, however, scarcely partook of the character of an infliction. Speaking with an intimate knowledge of the drift of public opinion in his own country, he announced that the days of protectionist tariffs in America were numbered. This was probably a more sanguine view of the situation than any of his hearers would have taken of their own accord. It was none the less gratifying, however, to hear from an authority on the subject that M'Kinleyism was so near its final dissolution. At a return banquet which Mr. Folsom's friends gave him in the same place a week later, the chair was occupied by the Mayor (Mr. B. Langley), who was supported by the Master Cutler and the president of the Chamber of Commerce. It is intended to present Mr. Folsom with a case of Sheffield cutlery as a memento of his stay among us.

The Master Cutler (Mr. H. B Atkinson) has been appointed one of the judges in the Cutlery Section of the Chicago Exhibition, and leaves shortly to begin his duties in that capacity. Before returning, Mr. Atkinson will make a somewhat extended tour in Canada, and is expected to be absent from Sheffield about three months. He will be back in time, however, for the Cutlers' Feast, which, as in recent years, will be somewhat later than was formerly customary.

The old-established silver and electro-plate business of Messrs. William Hutton and Sons, which has attained such vast dimensions within recent years, has just been registered as a limited liability company, with a capital of £100,000 in £50 shares. As the change has been made with a view solely to facilitate certain family arrangements, none of these shares will be offered to the public, and the management and working of the business will remain as heretofore. The directors are Messrs. Herbert Hutton, William Ernest Hutton, and George A. Parker.

The quarterly return of exports to the United States from the Sheffield Consular district for the quarter ending June 30th, shows a considerable decline as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year. The total amounts to £115,357 11s. 11d., against £122,427 last year. Cutlery alone shows a falling off to the extent of £5,310.

The Sheffield present to the Duke and Duchess of York will be exhibited at the Cutlers' Hall in the course of a few days. This, however, will be too late for anything like a detailed notice in this month's "Notes." Messrs. Edward Greaves and Son, of Shoreham-street, are busy with the cases for the cutlery and will shortly complete their task. No definite arrangements have so far been made as to the presentation itself, but in any case the work promises to be the very best in the way of silver and cutlery that Sheffield can produce.

Travellers in Ireland are sending sorry accounts home as to the state of business there. As a rule they are not taking sufficient orders to clear expenses.

The coal crisis nearer home is not calculated to mend matters. How far the strike, which now appears inevitable, will affect us in Sheffield is uncertain owing to the complicated nature of the situation. If manufacturers can get sufficient coal at a reasonable price from outside the Federation districts, work will probably go on; if not, then certainly furnaces will be blown out and engines set down. The outlook at present is not reassuring. This much is certain, that the manufacturers in the present state of trade will not pay an exorbitant price for coal. Everything depends on the ability of the non-Federation collieries to introduce a sufficient quantity of coal into the district. If this problem can be solved, well and good; if not, we are in for a spell of hard times.

AUG 12 1893
PATENT OFFICE

British Horological Institute.

The annual meeting of the above Institute was held on the 20th ult., at the Institute buildings, Mr. Charles Dunn in the chair. The report declared the balance-sheet to be fairly satisfactory. The drawing and theory classes continue to do good work, generously assisted by the Goldsmiths' and Clockmakers' companies. The number of applications to sit for the theory examination of the Institute shows a gratifying increase. With a view to encourage excellence of work among young watchmakers, the council have offered the silver medal of the Turners' Company for the best lever escapement made by any one under twenty-one years of age, the work to be sent in by September 1st. A. T. Anderson, Carlisle, comes in at the head of the honours grade in the theory examination, and thus wins the silver medal of the Institute. There are at present on the books of the Institute 372 members and fourteen associates. The report was agreed to. The meeting then proceeded to the election of officers, Lord Grimthorpe being re-elected president.

Results of the Examinations of the Coventry Technical Institute.—The following results of recent examinations held at the Coventry Technical Institute have been received:—Practical, plane, and solid Geometry, section 1.—Passed—George E. Mann, George R. Player. Elementary stage, passed—W. C. Watts, William Cramp, Jesse G. Griffiths. External students, elementary stage, passed—Richard Vickers, George W. Farrell, Charles Clarke.—Applied mechanics, elementary stage—passed—George F. Jones, Harry F. Atkins.—Geology, elementary stage—passed—George H. Bunney.—A "pass" in the elementary stage is equal to a former "first class," he "second class" having been discontinued.

Visit to the Prescot Watch Factory.—Recently some sixty members of the Society of Chemical Industry travelled by special train to Prescot, to inspect the extensive works of the Lancashire Watchmaking Company. The utmost interest was evinced by the visitors in the wonderful mechanism of the machinery used in manufacturing the watch in its separate parts. The inspection was so well ordered that they first saw the making of the requisite tools, then the crude material from which the watches were made, and afterwards the various stages of manufacture up to the completed article.

"Bells" v. Hours.—A correspondent of the *English Mechanic* has again been advocating that turret clocks should be made to strike the naval half hours as at each "watch" at sea. By this means, says he, "all use of our clumsy abbreviations, 'A.M.' and 'P.M.' would cease, giving place to the single initials C.M. F.A.E.N. We can think of nothing so soon altering our time reckoning as the existence of a clock striking navally in this manner; hours would soon give place to bells on land exactly as at sea." We, however, do not see the probability of the whole world turning lunatics.

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the views of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

DIAMOND FIELD NOTES

(By Our Own Correspondent.)

Kimberley, July 1st, 1893.

Readers will probably be prepared to hear that there is no change for the better—*i.e.*, in a jeweler's sense—in the price of diamonds, nor, indeed, does there at present appear the slightest probability of a fall. The great De Beers has just had its annual meeting, at which some remarkable and significant figures were shown. The earnings, including diamonds in hand, reached £3,380,000, the expenses being only £1,179,000, leaving a profit of £2,201,000. The net profits are certainly 40 per cent., but, owing to the significant reserve, only 25 per cent. per annum is allotted to the shareholders, the rest going to the reserve fund, which now probably reaches a million sterling. This enormous amount is held as a guarantee against the fluctuations—or rather otherwise possible fluctuations—in the price of the sovereign gem, and also to establish a confidence in buyers as to the maintenance of high prices. There is also the possibility of other Wesseltons cropping up at any moment which it would be necessary for the De Beers to buy up. However, the management believes in having a large reserve rather than paying the whole of its earnings into the pockets of the shareholders. The company has also got two and a-half million loads of blue hauled, which is not only a valuable asset, but a guarantee that washing, and hence supply of gems, would remain constant under any circumstances for some time to come.

The New Jagersfontein has also had its meeting, and when its position is fully realised the short-sighted policy of the De Beers in selling out their Jagersfontein when they were at £5 must be very galling to shareholders, some of whom have got to almost believe in the infallibility of their great chief. The Jagers has declared a dividend of 5 per cent. for the half-year ending June 30th. What the next dividend will be is difficult to say, as their present contract price is 45s., and no doubt during the last six months, although infinitely better than of yore, the stones have not been made the most of. Indeed, to my mind it is a question whether the Board has acted up to its articles of association. I do not say that Messrs. Pam were moved by motives in which they were entirely disinterested, but I venture to predict that before the next meeting of the company every shareholder will have to admit that, had the stones been put upon the open market, every investor would have been much richer. It is well known that this mine has produced a number of large stones from fifty to 400 carats, and is likely to produce larger ones at any moment; and when such a slice of luck comes the shareholders who risk their money in the venture ought to reap the full benefit.

Interest is now centering around the old Monastry mine. Poor old Monastry! it has had a curious history! Evidence is now at hand to show that it was the first, or one of the first, diamond mines ever worked! There are natives whose ancestors have lived round here for certainly hundreds and hundreds of years, and have an oral history of all that has taken place, but no reference in any legend current points to diamond mining having ever been carried on. Still we have the facts now brought to light as to the antiquity of the working of this mine. Recently liberated from litigation, the mine was handed over to the reflotation committee, and work recommenced in earnest, which soon disclosed the fact that the yellow, which heretofore had been worked by Europeans, had in former days been dry-sorted by the "ancients." That this was the case is certified by the fact that at the bottom of the workings penetrated by them, have been found the skeletons of the men with their implements and arms, who were probably killed while at work.

Another significant and important fact about this mine is that it is 150 miles east of any diamond mine, forty miles S.E. of Winburg, in the Orange Free State, and only eighteen miles from the Basuto border; thus once more proving the rashness of the assertion of the great Premier as to the limitation of the diamond area. At present it appears to contain about 500 claims, and as a clearing away of the old yellow *debris* is effected, still more marvels will be revealed. The blue has already been pierced, and in the first week of working proved twelve carats to the 100 loads, including two stones of fourteen and seventeen carats respectively. Only about twenty-five claims have, as yet, been cleared, the depth reached being about forty feet.

Yet again the empire of the crystal octahedron spreads its sway; this time in an almost opposite direction, being nearly fifty miles W.N.W. of Kimberley, in the classic locality of Barkly, Griqualand West. Here, some eighteen months ago, I told you the trained eye and careful judgment of Mr. C. J. Alford, of Salati fame, had admitted: "There is not the slightest doubt that the deposit in question is a true eruptive of the diamond bearing rock, identical in its general characteristics with those from the 'Kimberley Mines.'" This property, known as the Newlands (W.G.) Diamond Mines is now to be floated as a company, with £150,000 capital. Already the (two) mines have yielded over 1,000 carats of diamonds, 300 of which are now at the offices. together with samples of the blue, and carefully prepared sections of the mines. Few things have come into the market with a better face upon them than this property, and there is no doubt it will turn out trumps.

Work is proceeding at Koffyfontein. A bad name dies hard! and so many of the Kimberlites will look askance upon the new enterprise of opening up this mine, and have even gone so far as to cry down the quality of the stones that are being found to the extent of making a considerable depreciation in the price of them. Still, nothing daunted, the new manager of the Hatton-garden syndicate is pushing along, and has sunk the rock shaft to 100ft., and has been rewarded by a forty, twenty-seven, and fifteen carat stone respectively.

The N.E. Bultfontein continue in their usual manner. For the four weeks ending yesterday, they washed 67,500 loads, which included 45,700 loads of *debris* which yielded 3,450 carats of diamonds; and 21,800 loads of blue, which yielded 4,400 carats, making a total of 7,850 carats of the noble gem won, together with an increased blue on the floris of 15,200 loads.

At Warrenton good finds are reported, including a thirty-five and a-half carat stone, and several others of two figures.

Another property, Dodds Prospect, has been thrown open,and one thirty-five and a-half and another twelve carat stone found.

Carmel, near Ladybrand, is also promising well; a perfect white gem of three carats was found the other day, and machinery is arriving for extensive washing operations.

Many of your readers will have seen South Africa's wedding present, for which £286 was collected. It takes the form of a fan made of the very finest and choicest specimens of ostrich feathers, and upon the handle is a spray of diamonds representing the rose of York and sprigs of "May" tied with a true lovers' knot. The stones are the finest white Jagers, selected by B. J. Barnarto.

The World's Fair.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

(*Continued from page 18.*)

The Waltham Watch Company, of Waltham, Mass., have a very fine exhibit in the main thoroughfare. Their stand, which is constructed of nicely turned mahogany, draped with blue plush, cost £2,000. Mr. H. E. Duncan, who is in charge of the exhibit, was good enough to show me round his stall. "We display here," he said, "2,000 movements, representing one day's product at our manufactory at Waltham, where are employed 3,000 hands, the majority being women. Each one of these movements is going. They are wound up by means of that machine you see there like a lathe. We can with this machine wind up 1,000 movements an hour. We also show here machines for the making of watches, showing the improvements which have taken place since the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia in 1876. They include a vibrator for selecting hair-springs suitable for the balance a Church turning lathe, a Marsh rotary pinion cutter, a Church barrel arbour squaring machine, a Church arbour tapping and drilling machine, a balance drilling machine, a Marsh screw-cutting machine, a Marsh roughing-out lathe, a Marsh pinion polisher, and a complete machine shop for repairs. All the machines I have mentioned are automatic. We use them not so much to lessen the cost of production as to improve the quality of the watch. It is not possible to make the parts much cheaper than they have been made, but it is possible to make them more perfect, more uniform, and that is what this automatic machinery is doing—we can with its aid turn out a more perfect harmonious watch." Mr. Duncan's staff at the Exhibition consists of four young ladies, one machinist, one interpreter, and six assistants to attend to visitors. The public may see the different machines at work, and become acquainted with some of the details of watchmaking.

A facsimile model of the company's factory may also be seen on a scale of one-eighth of an inch to the foot and views of the interior of the works. The stall is beautifully lighted at night by electroliers, the current being obtained from the company's own dynamo.

The Waterbury Watch Company have a very pretty stall in the same group, in which are tastily arranged hundreds of the particular kind of watch turned out by this firm. An interesting feature of this exhibit is a clock 16ft. high, which has been in course of construction at Waterbury for the past twelve years, costing £16,000 to produce. It contains over 700 automatic figures, representing the progress of inventions in the United States. In the front, below the dial, is the train room of the company's factory at Waterbury, with thirty-four operators all hard at work performing their various operations on miniature machines, which are exact representations of the originals. On the left hand side there are three sections. One represents an old-fashioned sawmill with several men at work; another a cotton plantation; and the third a country kitchen, showing how watches were made in the old time, various members of a family being employed in constructing watches with most awkward tools. On the other side of the clock is a telephone and telegraph office, with clerks receiving and despatching messages; girls at work with obsolete and modern sewing machines; and an engine and dynamo. The whole of this wonderful piece of mechanism is worked by electricity.

H. Muhr and Son, Philadelphia, have a display of jewelry and silver and gold thimbles. They show 1,500 watch cases, solid gold and silver, and also the "filled" cases. Visitors may here learn how these latter cases are made. They are first shown a bar of metal about an inch thick. On each side there is a gold layer one eighth of an inch thick, the centre being filled with composition. Then they can see the bar rolled out to 1-16th of an inch in thickness, and so on, until the case is beautifully finished and engraved. When fourteen carat gold is used the firm gives a written guarantee for twenty years, when ten carat fifteen years. Messrs. Muhr and Son manufacture 7,500 of these filled cases per week.

The Pairpoint Manufacturing Company, New Bedford, Mass., have a beautiful stand, and their exhibit of silver plated ware is well worth seeing.

The Bundy Manufacturing Company, Binghamton, New York, exhibit an ingenious machine for recording the time of arrival and departure of employés. On entering the works the employé takes down a key on which is marked his number, and placing it in a keyhole in the recorder gives it a half turn. On the edge of the wards of the key is his number in type, and as he turns it in the lock this type passes over an inked pad, and afterwards leaves an impression on a piece of white "tape." At the same time the exact hour and minute is recorded alongside this number on the paper. When leaving the building the workman presses down a knob, and in addition to the record the paper shows an asterisk.

The Waltham Co. also make a display of mainsprings, decorated dials, and last but not least a valuable collection of historical and antique watches loaned to the American Waltham Watch Company by Mr. Evan Roberts, of Manchester. Besides others made in the sixteenth and early seventeenth century may be seen the following, purchased by Mr. Roberts from the Roskell collection, Liverpool, in which they had been for more than a century:—

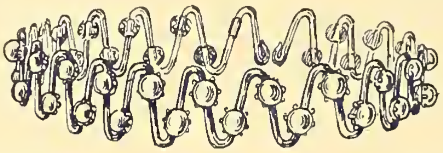
Belonged to	Description.	Maker.
King James 1st.	Metal cased; alarum. Date, about 1610.	David Ramsey, London.
Oliver Cromwell.	Silver cased; alarum. Date, about 1648.	Bockel, London.
John Milton.	Silver cased; raised points on dial, by which the blind poet ascertained the time. Date, about 1660.	Bouguet, London.
Sir Isaac Newton.	Astronomical watch; shell enamelled case. Date, 17th century.	Girod, Paris.
King George 3rd.	Cyclometer; used on carriages to measure distances travelled.	Gout, London.
Robert Burns.	In three metal cases. Date, 1771.	Fowles, Kilmarnock
Captain Rose. Presented by Lord Nelson.	Silver case.	Delornie, Paris.
William of Orange.	Shell case; silver mounted. Date, 1656.	Saville, London.
Queen Elizabeth.	Metal and enamelled case. Date, 16th century.	Jeubi, Paris.
John Calvin.	Hour striker; metal gilt oval case. Date, 16th century.	Unknown.
John Bunyan.	Seconds hand on plate. Date, 16th century.	Fitter, London.
Lady Jane Grey.	Silver case; enamelled dial. Date, 16th century.	Chaunes.

The Besancon National Watch and Clock Exhibition.—A National Watch and Clock Exhibition is to be held in Besancon from July 29th to August 31st. From the efforts being put forth and the interest taken in the movement by manufacturers, it is fully expected that a very fine and interesting display will be made. Further particulars as to exhibits can be had from the Secretary-General, Bourse de Commerce, Passage des Carmes, Syndicat de la Fabrique d'Horlogerie, Besancon, France. It would prove an interesting exhibition to visit in the summer holidays.

Things New or Noteworthy

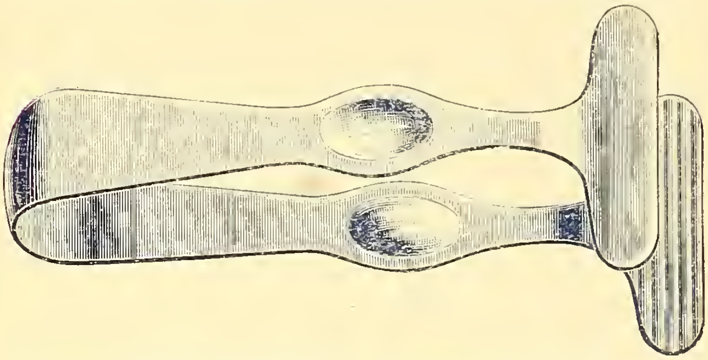
The New Oriental Self-Fastening Bracelet.

WE herewith illustrate one of the most ingenious and "taking" bracelets that have been brought out for a long time. It has already been taken up by the principal houses in the trade and has probably a great future before it. The bracelet has wisely been registered and is only made in good quality, so that it will retain its popularity among the jewelry-wearing public. It has neither joint nor catch, fits any wrist or on any position of the arm, and is made with either collet- or rubbed-over- setting. It is eminently suited for a variety of gems, especially the fashionable turquoise or turquoise and pearl, and is about the most imposing article at the price with which we are acquainted. And, last but not least, it is no "foreign interloper," being made in the jewelers' quarter, Clerkenwell.



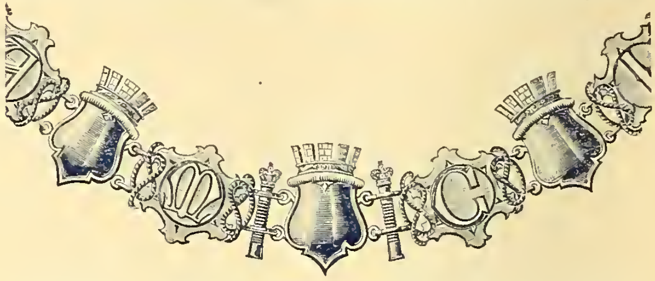
A Novelty that Meets a Real Need.

ONE of the customs of the popular five o'clock tea being the retention of the hat and gloves, the question has often arisen as to whether the benefits derived from the institution are sufficient either to pay for the extra glovers' bills or the annoyance of having delicate gloves greased at the finger tips, and therefore soiled, a few minutes after having labored for half an hour to squeeze the hand into them. This is more especially the case when they happen to be some particular color difficult to replace, or on an occasion where a second or more visits are to follow the first. Thousands of pairs of gloves have thus been spoiled, and smiling lips made to pout over a nuisance which could easily have been remedied had it reached the ears of the ingenious. At last a young society lady, having so repeatedly suffered from touching bread and butter or pastry with her gloves, resolved to get a special pair of bread-and-butter tongs made which would obviate the necessity of touching the gastronomic morsels with the gloves. The manufacture of the articles having fallen to Messrs. Atkin Brothers, the idea has suggested itself to that firm to register the new articles. We herewith illustrate the first pair made. In general appearance they are not unlike small asparagus tongs, but the grasping mouth is flat and ribbed. A splendid feature is introduced, even in the plain patterns, of two small concavities into which the thumb and finger pass, and thus maintain a firm grasp. The one illustrated is one of the plain patterns, of actual size. There are others in course of manufacture of new and artistic designs. We are sure that an article at once so called for, novel, and taking has an immense future before it.



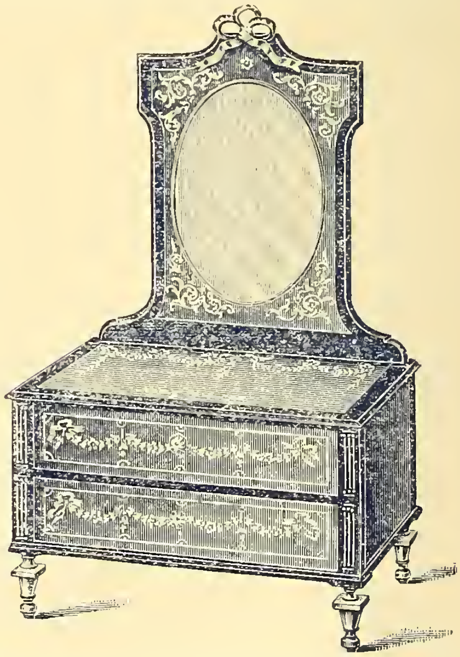
Gold Chain for a Chief Constable.

MR. CRONEEN, jeweler, of New Brompton, has just supplied a gold chain of office for the Chief Constable of Gillingham (Kent). The centre link is of a shield shape, surmounted with the mural crown and placed between models of the staff of office of the Chief Constable. Each alternate link is of this same design, and the shields bear the name of each of the Chief Constables who have already held the office. The links coming between the shield-shaped ones are of a circular form with fancy border, and in their centres bear the letters forming the word Gillingham in Gothic characters. The chain is made of 15 carat hall-marked gold and is solid throughout, no hollow stampings being used in its manufacture. It was manufactured by Vaughton and Sons, Gothic Works, Birmingham.



A New Photo Cabinet.

THE accompanying illustration shows a very taking idea in the way of photo cabinets, which can be made as elaborate and as heavily silver-mounted as desired. Any photo can be selected for exhibition, and the drawers charged with others. Should Mr. and Mrs. A. be expected to pay a visit, Mr. and Mrs. B., who are now at the other end of the country, can be removed and the place of honor given to the former. It is one of the productions of Frederick Wich and Co., Great Titchfield-street.



The South Africans' Fan.—The fan alluded to by our Kimberley correspondent was manufactured by Messrs. J. W. Benson, Ludgate-hill, and amongst the almost hundreds of fans comprised in the wedding presents it stands out a long way in advance of all the rest. The conception and execution is superb; some might, perhaps, consider the word "May" is too obtrusive and too inharmonious with the rest of the design, but the *tout ensemble* is very beautiful and even charming. They were rather bad stones, however, to mix with many of the presents, as they give them all more or less a touch of the jaundice. After having spent a long time amongst the presents we came to the conclusion that these were the best picked and the best quality gems amongst those we saw.

REPORT OF THE ASTRONOMER ROYAL.

THE annual report of the Astronomer Royal was read to the Board of Visitors at the Royal Observatory on June 3rd. As it consists of nearly thirty large pages it is impossible to give more than the merest abstracts. The building of the much needed south wing of the proposed Physical Observatory, to provide additional accommodation for chronometers and deck watches, was commenced on November 24th. The need for further accommodation is being more urgently felt every day, in all departments of the Observatory. The New Museum, forming the central portion of the Physical Observatory, has at length been fitted with the necessary glass cases, which are now ready for the reception of portable instruments and apparatus. The old cylindrical dome on the south-east tower was dismounted in November, and the new one finished and in place by April 25th; the difficulties being skilfully overcome by Messrs. T. Cook and Sons. The electric light installation for the principal instruments, proposed last year, has been sanctioned, and the necessary generating plant supplied by Messrs. Johnson and Phillips. The engine, dynamo, and accumulators will be set up on the ground floor of the new south wing of the Physical Observatory. Owing to the continuity of fine weather about three times the usual number of transit and circle observations have been made. The proposal for a universal transit-circle to replace the existing altazimuth, and to serve as a duplicate meridian instrument for fundamental determination, has been sanctioned by the Government, and its construction entrusted to Messrs. Troughton and Simms. This instrument will be erected on the north of the Magnetic Observatory. The Sidereal Standard has failed, and gone erratically; in the first instance this was considered to be due to the thickening of the oil, the maintaining power was also strengthened; but subsequently it was discovered that the barometric inequality had been considerably under-corrected. The mean solar clock was cleaned by Mr. Kulberg, on May 27th, 1892, the Hardy clock repaired, and the Mudge and Dutton cleaned. With a view to the improvement of the Hourly time signals the clock Dent, 2,012, with zinc and steel pendulum, has been fitted with hourly contact springs. The new 28in. refractor is being erected. No spectroscopic observations have been made during the past year. The photographic registration of the variations of the magnetic elements and earth currents has been maintained. The period has been one of great magnetic activity. The magnetic basement is kept at about 67 degrees. The disturbance of the earth currents due to the trains running on the City and South London Electric Railway continues with about the same intensity. In view of the approaching introduction of a dynamo into the Observatory grounds for electric lighting, experiments have been made to determine the possible effect on the magnetographs of the dynamo, unshielded, and with triple iron shields. These experiments were carried out at Messrs. Johnson and Phillips's factory, Charlton. The deflection of the declination magnet and of the portable unifilar magnetometer were observed at twenty and forty feet respectively due (magnetic) west of the dynamo; the poles were in the magnetic east and west direction, thus giving the maximum deflecting effect. At the Royal Observatory the poles of the dynamo will be (astronomical) N. and S., and it will be placed at a distance of about 170 feet from the magnets, and nearly due magnetic south. The Charlton experiments give the following result:—

Effect on		Declination of Magnet	Horizontal force Magnet.
Dynamo unshielded	...	4″	·00008
„ with triple shield		0″·5	·00001

the effect on the horizontal force magnet being expressed in parts of the whole horizontal force. The corresponding displacements of the magnetograph registers would be only $\frac{1}{2000}$ of an inch for declination, and $\frac{1}{400}$ of an inch for horizontal force, in each case with triple shield dynamo. Further improvements in the shield are anticipated.

The mean magnetic elements for 1892 were:—

Mean declination ...	17° 18′ W.
„ horizontal force	1·8265 (M.U.)
„ dip	67° 19′ 45″ (6″ needles).

The number of chronometers and deck watches now being tested at the Observatory is—137 chronometers, 26 pocket chronometers, and 43 deck watches; there are also 8 chronometers on trial for purchase by the Indian Government; and four box chronometers and two pocket chronometers have been tested after repair for the same Government. The next annual competitive trial of chronometers commences July 1st; and the trial of deck watches on October 21st. During the year 759 chronometers and deck watches were received. For the annual twenty-nine weeks' trial of chronometers, with a range of temperature of from 36deg. to 103deg., 48 were sent in, and of these 25 were purchased for the Navy. Upon the whole the trials compare favorably with former years.

There were 48 deck watches of the two classes A and B for the annual trial; of these 35 A's and 8 B's were purchased for the Navy. The conditions of trial of these watches being rather more severe than usual, their performances compared unfavorably with previous years. On three occasions the time ball could not be raised on account of the high wind, on several days the signalling was defective, otherwise the ball fell regularly at 13h. each day. Big Ben received his diurnal communications, which, however, did not reach him on twenty-five days. The error in his time-keeping was insensible upon 42 per cent. of the days of observation, one second on 29 per cent., to two seconds on 21 per cent., to three seconds on 7 per cent., and to four seconds on three occasions.

* * *

Success of the Polytechnic Goldsmiths' Class.—The students of the goldsmith's craft at the Polytechnic have reason to be highly gratified at their success this year, and their able teacher, J. H. Stapleton, is to be highly congratulated, as can be seen by the following list, which shows that four out of five medals awarded to students throughout the kingdom have been gained by these classes. In the honors grade, C. W. Padgett takes second prize, bronze medal and £2 prize. In the elementary grade the following are gained: A. H. Hancock, first prize, silver medal and £2 prize; G. J. Guiliano, second prize, bronze medal and £2 prize; S. H. Hedgeland, third prize, bronze medal and £1 prize. In addition to these there are ten certificates, two first class in honors, eight first class, and four second class ordinary grade.

The "Poly" Class at the Workmen's Exhibition.—At the National Workmen's Exhibition at the Agricultural Hall, now open, the Goldsmiths' Class at the Polytechnic, Regent-street, W., are exhibiting a small case in Group II. It contains three articles with their working drawings: one a bracelet mount for diamonds, by E. F. James, who has gained a first class certificate in honors at the City and Guilds examination. The second is a heart-shape miniature frame by C. W. Padgett, the winner of the second prize in honors, who takes the first prize. The third is interesting as being the production of the students in the ordinary grade. It was designed as a means of combining the necessary individual practice with the practical test which all have to undergo at the examination. Each tracing was given to a different student, and the grace and truth of the scrolls attest the care with which they worked; indeed one might easily imagine it to have been one man's work, instead of the work of more than a dozen people. It is also the design of a talented student, A. H. Hancock, who, we are glad to see, has gained the first prize in the ordinary grade of goldsmith's work.

English Jewelry at the World's Fair.—We are pleased to hear that Mr. F. Knight, of Palmer-street, Frome, has despatched a first consignment of 1,000 brooches, of a special design of his own, for sale at the Chicago Exposition. The design, which is a very neat work of art, is composed of the arms of Christopher Columbus in different colored enamel.

Sending Turret Clocks to America.—The large turret chime clock, the illustration of which we inserted last month in connection with a notice of W. F. Evans and Sons, Soho Clock Factory, Birmingham, has now been shipped to Philadelphia, where it will mark the time for the New Englanders, and remind them that they are not altogether sailing away from the old Mother Country.

THE ROYAL RINGS AND BRITISH GOLD.

THERE were some people who were quite astonished to hear that the Royal wedding ring, which is for ever to unite "England's future King and Queen," was to be made of Welsh gold. Thousands of people flocked during the month of June to the windows of Messrs. Percy Edwards and Co., Piccadilly, and viewed with curiosity the little ingot from which "the yoke that binds" was to be made. To those of us, however, who know the history of gold mining in Wales, and how it has been hampered and hindered by our disgraceful mining laws, the incident that a ring made of Welsh gold was presented to Royalty appears a little ironical when we realise the thousands of pounds that the Crown has claimed as its *right* from the gold, even in what may be called the prospecting for the precious metal, in the Principality. In almost any other country under the sun, encouragement by way of bonuses would be paid in the interest of the State, and there is hardly another country, civilised or uncivilised, where such relics of feudalism as these mining laws exist. If we had the space at our disposal we should like to give some details of the occurrence of gold in "little Wales," and how the objectionable and oppressive laws have hindered the development of the industry, nor can we altogether abstain from saying something about them, as they are of the greatest national interest.

That the Romans worked the gold in Wales is evident; but in after years the mining for the precious metal was entirely abandoned. More than once in later times, however, the Welsh mines supplied the bullion for currency in times of emergency. In 1844 the Cambrian gold fields were once more brought forward in a paper read before the British Association, by Mr. Arthur Dean, who pointed out that a complete system of auriferous veins exists throughout the whole of the Snowdonian or Lower Silurian formations in North Wales, assertions which researches in 1854 and subsequently, principally by Messrs. Morgan and Redwin, confirmed. But the precious metal is by no means confined to North Wales, there are many open veins in the South, especially on the banks of the Cothy at Gogofau, Carmarthenshire. But those of North Wales embrace an area of over fifty square miles, where can be seen hundreds of quartz lodes, mostly auriferous, up to sixty-six feet wide. They include the following mines :—Beithllwyad, Cambrian, Cae Mawr, Castell Carn Dochaw, Cefncoch, Cefndewddwr, Clogau, Cwmheisian, Dolclochydd, Dolfrwynog, Ganllwydd, Garn, Garth, Garthgill, Glasdio, Gwynfyndd, Moel Ispri, Prince of Wales, Tyddynglwades, and Vigra. From these mines tens of thousands of tons of ore have been taken, with an average result of over an ounce to the ton. Over sixty thousand pounds worth of gold had been sold to the Bank of England six years ago. We have handled immense masses of this ore, as uniformly rich as small specimens now before us. The late Mr. Redwin had some two thousand assays made, which he classified, and of these only fourteen gave no gold; 385 gave under an ounce, but all the rest ran up quickly, passing hundreds of ounces, to thousands; nor did they stop here, one giving between 10,000 and 20,000 ounces, one 22,000 ounces, and another crowned the assays with 35,800 ounces per ton, being pure gold with the addition of a small quantity of silver—electrum, as Pliny called it.

That such vast treasures as these should exist in our very midst, in the days of business stagnation and unemployed riots, is a disgrace to any Government, and more so if the great cause why these mines have not been developed is, as Mr. Redwin—and he ought to have known—maintained it was, due to mining laws and the claims of the Crown. There is every reason to believe that had the Crown encouraged and not discouraged the gold mining industry in Wales, she would have been able to supply not only gold rings for Britain's future sovereigns, but a golden throne, or even a golden palace.

Anxious to maintain the dignity of Scotland, the loyal Gaels have shown that if Wales can produce a wedding ring, Scotia can also produce a keeper, and accordingly gold has been obtained from the celebrated Leadhills mines for a keeper, which is designed from the arms of Scotland—a Scottish lion in a double border, with the Royal motto, "Nemo me impune lacessit," running round in enamel between edges of thistle bloom and carved gold leaves. This is by no means the only place that has furnished gold in bonnie Scotland. But it is somewhat an interesting one and one that has been immortalised by Scott, who says :—

> That active and patriotic Prince, James V., ordered the mineral wealth of Scotland to be inquired into. He obtained miners from Germany, who extracted both silver and gold from the mines of Leadhills, in the upper part of Clydesdale. The gold was of very fine quality, and found in quantity sufficient to supply metal for a very elegant gold coin, which, bearing on one side the head of James V. wearing a bonnet, has been thence called the bonnet piece. It is said that upon one occasion the Ambassadors of Spain, France, and other foreign countries were invited to hunt with him in Crawford Moor, the district in which lie the mines I have just mentioned. They dined in the Castle of Crawford, a rude old fortress. The King made some apology for the dinner, which was composed of the game they had killed during the hunting and hawking of the day, but he assured the guests that the dessert would make them some amends, as he had given directions that it should consist of the finest fruits which the country afforded. The foreigners looked at each other in surprise on hearing the King talk of fruits being produced amidst the black moors and barren mountains around them, but the dessert made its appearance in the shape of a number of covered saucers, one of which was placed before each guest, and, being examined, was found to be full of gold bonnet pieces, which they were desired to accept as the fruits produced by the mountains of Crawford Moor. This new sort of dessert was no doubt as acceptable as the most delicate fruits of southern climates. The mines of the country are now wrought only for lead, of which they produce still a very large quantity.

The question which next presents itself is, will the Emerald Isle allow herself to be left out in the cold? Were it not for the fact that both Scotland and Wales acted voluntarily, we should consider it a slight upon Ireland; but as there are several Hibernian localities that have yielded and do yield gold, let us hope that Ireland will not let her native capabilities pass by unrepresented at Court, but will make, say a belcher ring for the Duke, or what is better, secure one of the diamonds that have been reported to have been found in Ireland, and have it mounted in a ring for the Duchess.

The Largest Diamond in the World.

SINCE our Kimberley correspondent wrote us we have received information through Mr. Lewis Atkinson of the discovery of a fine stone in the Jagersfontein mine, weighing 970 carats. This information he had received by wire, and communicated to the *Telegraph*, from which paper it has since been copied with additions by almost every paper in the land. We shall be able to give a full account of this—the largest diamond probably ever found—later on. Report has it that it is a perfect stone, of a lovely Jagers blue-white, and octahedral in shape. If this is the case it will probably fetch seven figures, and quite possibly the first one will not be a unit.

A Remarkable Record.—Recently Messrs. Stauffer, Son, and Co. sent in a batch of their chronographs to Kew for testing, but not being their best productions, no special care had been taken in timing. Still one of these ordinary chronographs secured no less than 79.4 marks, which will, quite possibly, head the year's list; at any rate it is only slightly behind last year's highest, and is a remarkable proof of the excellence of these time measurers. We were about to raise the question of how it would surprise our friends of the last generation, but we need not do that; we are afraid that even those of the present cannot yet realise that a chronograph with one of the best actions ever brought out, and with a Kew certificate, can be had for much less than would have been asked only a few years ago for an ordinary watch with a Kew character.

In and Out of the Courts.

A Victim of Misplaced Confidence.

THE latest news of a well-known character in the West End trade, Charles Victor M'Shane, is that he has abused the confidence which Mr. A. H. Paton, jeweler, of Brewer-street, London, W., unwisely began to repose in him about three years ago, and M'Shane is now charged with having stolen a quantity of jewelry to the value of £1,450. Most of the trade will remember his connection with another Brewer-street firm, which Mr. Paton appears to have forgotten, notwithstanding the fact that the former proprietor has since had to appeal to Trade Charities. M'Shane was given into custody on the 17th ult., in Bridge-street, Westminster, by Mr. Paton. After prisoner had been charged, he stated that he had left the pawn-tickets at Bravington's, and had at home a diamond brooch which he had taken for his wife to wear. Mr. Paton said that the prisoner had been in his employment for about three years as confidential clerk and traveller at a salary amounting, with commission, to about £450 a year. On the 17th ult. he failed to put in an appearance, but later in the day witness saw him at his residence. M'Shane then told him that he had taken a number of articles from the stock and had raised money on them in different ways. Subsequently he made out a list of the articles, and added that he had obtained some on approbation in his (Mr. Paton's) name from Mr. Bravington, of Wardour-street. Witness had been away from business a great deal recently on account of ill-health, and M'Shane had consequently almost entire control of the stock. M'Shane was remanded.

What a Clergyman can do.

AT Chepstow Police-court, on the 18th ult., Charles Woodhouse Sheppard, clerk in holy orders, late of Caldicot, was brought up on remand, upon a number of indictments, for obtaining goods and money under false pretences, including a charge of that being bailee of a diamond ring, a gold watch and gold chain, the property of Nugent Wells, jeweler, of Newport, he did unlawfully appropriate them to his own use by pawning them. Nugent Wells, jeweler, trading as Nugent Wells and Son, deposed that on June 1st he received a letter from defendant, in consequence of which he went to Caldicot with a selection of jewelry, from which defendant selected certain articles, defendant telling him that he was going to marry Miss Micklethwaite in September. Shortly afterwards he returned two of the rings; another had since been returned, but the fourth ring, a half-hoop diamond valued at £30, had not been returned. On the 13th of June, in consequence of a telegram, he sent defendant, among other things, two small gold chains and a set of gold studs and sleeve links, which he had returned, except one of the chains, valued at about 55s., and the studs. On the 24th June defendant went to his shop and stated that he wanted some gold watches for Miss Micklethwaite to see, and he selected three and took them away. He kept one valued at £12 and returned two, which he subsequently pawned. Malyn Sheppard, gentleman, of South Haven, Weston-super-Mare, father of the accused, stated the pretensions to property made by the defendant were false, and he had no income of his own, except what was given him voluntarily by his mother, and what fees he occasionally got by officiating as a clergyman. His (witness's) wife allowed prisoner voluntarily £200 a year at least, and he himself had several times during the last eight years paid debts for him to the amount of at least £2,000. He was committed for trial.

Shoplifters Wait upon the Lady Jeweler.

IN the lull which follows the New Year's trade, Mrs. Newman, the lady jeweler of Clifford-street, Bond-street, W., was visited by two elderly men named John Shine and Thomas James, who, on the occasion of their last visit, asked to be shown some articles worth about £100 each. Ultimately a selection was made, and an invoice executed, and request made that the things should be put on one side till a cheque was received and cashed. They had scarcely left the place before the astute jeweler—or jeweless—missed a diamond bracelet of the value of £120. Both prisoners have since been arrested and now await their trial for this and another similar charge.

I. D. B.-ing.

ALL interested in diamonds, or the even more precious commodity—justice—will be pleased to hear that an I. D. B.-er was successfully anticipated on his arrival at Plymouth on board the *Roslin Castle.* It appears the culprit, named Michael Halafin, has been a hotel keeper in South Africa, but "from information received" the police were communicated with, and the would-be man of diamonds arrested. While his luggage was being landed a porter, seeing him drop a small paper parcel, picked it up and gave it to the inspector. This packet, it is alleged, contained about £20,000 of adamantine sparklers. Let us hope the culprit will be sent back to the Cape and treated with the fullest severity the law will admit. These rascals have not only ruined thousands of diamond diggers, but have had a most pernicious influence on the diamond market.

He Got in with the Nobility.

GUSTAVE HELA, late of Harper-street, Theobalds-road, Hart-street and Hyde-street, Bloomsbury, has been let off with six months' hard labor for pawning various articles left with him for repair. It appears the prisoner had a good connection in the West End, noblemen and gentlemen employing him to wind and repair their clocks, etc. The servants at the houses visited by the prisoner frequently entrusted him with watches to mend, and it was alleged that he pawned many of the articles entrusted to his care, and changed his address at convenient intervals. He was now charged with respect to a valuable French clock, belonging to Colonel Cooper, of 42, Portman-square. Twelve months ago he undertook to repair it, but never returned it to its owner. When arrested he had three watches in his possession. In his pocket was found a list of watches, clocks, and jewelry, with particulars of the people from whom they were obtained and the name of the pawnbrokers with whom they were pledged. The list was commenced in 1892, and extended down to the present time. Among the other names it contained were those of Lord Warwick, Lord Northbourne, Lord Lonsdale, and others. At the prisoner's house Detective Callaghan found no fewer than 115 pawn-tickets relating to watches, clocks, rings, and other jewelry, which he admitted had been entrusted to him to repair, for all of which he was awarded a milder sentence than many receive for a twentieth part of 115 offences.

Worth Remembering!

AT the Retford County-court, on the 12th ult., Judge Masterman delivered judgment in an interpleader case, in which Michael Wilson, watchmaker and jeweler, of Retford, had made a deed of assignment for the benefit of creditors. Mr. Parker Tomlinson claimed under it goods which had been taken under an execution, the judgment creditors being Messrs. Blanckensee and Son (Limited). The deed was being executed while the bailiffs was taking possession, and no creditor had before or since assented to it. His Honor found that the deed was executed with the express object of defeating the claim of the execution creditor, and declared it void as against him. He ordered that the High Bailiff retain his costs and pay the balance to the execution creditor.

It was at Least Careless.

A CASE was recently heard before Mr. Justice Wright and a common jury, in the Court of Queen's Bench, in which Mr. Hart, jeweler, of Holborn, was plaintiff. One defendant, Mr. Constable, was a brewer at Littlehampton, and the other, Mr. Daintree, was a solicitor and formerly agent to the Sun Fire Office, at Petworth. Mr. Constable had a number of houses which he insured in the Sun Office, and he sent Mr. Daintree a cheque for £81 0s. 5d. marked "insurances," but about this time Mr. Daintree ceased to be agent for the insurance office. The plaintiff had known this person for about seven years as a customer, and when the cheque was more than three weeks old Mr. Daintree called at the plaintiff's shop and bought goods amounting to £30, and said that he could not take them away unless the plaintiff could change the cheque. The plaintiff did change it, handing over a balance of £51 0s. 5d. The jury, after having heard some evidence and a good deal of argument, considered the matter for half an hour, and gave a verdict for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, but said that there was a carelessness on the part of the plaintiff in taking the cheque without knowing anything of the person by whom it was drawn.

A Disgraceful Transaction.

AT St. Helens County-court, on the 12th ult., Alex. B. Appleton, of Prescot, sued T. H. Horty, of Barnsley, for an account for watches supplied. Defendant admitted the debt, but submitted that as most of the orders were given at Barnsley, the St. Helens Court had no jurisdiction. The judge ruled that he had jurisdiction, and asked defendant how it was he did not want the case to be tried there. Defendant said he had made an arrangement with his creditors, and plaintiff was the only one who opposed it. Plaintiff gave as his reason that the day before the arrangement defendant sent for more watches, knowing what he was about to do. Plaintiff would not send them. His Honor remarked that it was a disgraceful transaction, and made an order for 6s. a month, with liberty for plaintiff to apply for an increased order.

Judges on the Tally System.

RECENTLY a case to recover payment for a watch was heard in the St. Helens County-court, in which the judge spoke of the tally system in the most condemnatory manner, stating that he should be glad if there was a law passed to abolish it altogether. The watch in question was no more worth £5 15s. than his pen was, but the purchaser had signed an agreement, and although it was shown that his signature was obtained by false pretences he would have to stick to his badly made bargain, and pay 2s. 6d. a month for it. Two months ago Mr. H. T. Edwards, Assistant Registrar for the Salford Court, in a somewhat similar case gave judgment for the defendant,although a bought note had been signed ; but the circumstances under which this note (like the foregoing) was signed were so misleading that the Registrar, having the case clearly laid before him by a shrewd Bolton solicitor, gave a verdict against the instalment man.

More Fraudulent Bailees.

GEORGE LEWIS, thirty-six, watchmaker, was recently sentenced at Oswestry to four months' hard labor, for fraudulently converting to his own use a gold watch left with him to repair, and to two months' similar employment for similarly acting with a silver timester. It is a pity the man with 115 cases did not get tried on each one like this.

AT Leeds Police-court John James, watchmaker, Wellington-road, Leeds, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for having illegally pawned two watches left with him to repair.

TURNING westward, Richard Wright, watchmaker, visited Taunton, and obtained from various confiding folk four watches to repair which he subsequently pawned. The police stated that after he was caught he gave them every assistance in recovering the property. This remark caused the Judge to observe, very properly, "assisted the police in defrauding the pawnbrokers. The prisoner got everything he could get out of the pawnbrokers, and then gave up the pawnbrokers." We feel that if this view was more often taken there would be far more justice in law courts than there is. As the prisoner had been at the same game several times previously, he was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment. We believe the East Anglians are awaiting the return of a number of watches he got from them, and we ask our Colchester readers to show the above to the police.

ANOTHER similar case—in so far as the crime is concerned, not in the judicial decision, which is unfortunately the reverse—was tried at Colchester Petty Sessions, when Thomas Smith, thirty-one, watchmaker, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for having pawned numerous articles left with him to repair. It was shown that the prisoner was known to be in the trade by the pawnbrokers who took in the goods, to whom he represented they were from his own stock. Nevertheless an order was made for the "simple restitution of the property to the owners."

A Curious Case.

AT the Stourbridge County-court, on the 12th ult., Mr. Zadok J. Rudelsheim, jeweler, 99, Tettenhall-road, Wolverhampton, sued A. E. Bridgwater, Halesowen, for a gold Albert. The defendant said that he had never ordered the chain, and that another man had ordered two and gave him one in liquidation of a debt of £4 odd. He could get only £1 for the chain. The verdict was, however, for the plaintiff.

Window Smashing.

UPON the whole, perhaps, there has been a little less window smashing during this month,two or three cases only having been reported to us. At St. Helens George Baker tried to smash the window of Mr. Benson, jeweler, by striking it with a boot ; but not being able to do so he threw the foot protector successfully through the glass, doing damage to the extent of £10. Prisoner said he did it because he wanted to get five years. Unfortunately he was only accommodated with two months' hard labor.

Burglaries.

ONLY a few burglaries have been reported during the month. The principal one was a very smart piece of work, the cracksman managing between the patrols of the police to cut a small hole in the glass inside the small peep hole of the shutters of the Watchmakers' Alliance, Oxford-street, through which he succeeded in extracting a number of gold watch chains. Fortunately the bar upon which the articles were suspended fell to the bottom of the window ; otherwise the loss would have been much greater. The robbery was not discovered till next day, which does not reflect much credit on the police.

FOR breaking into the shop of Thomas Stevens, Frodsham-street, Chester, and stealing therefrom fourteen metal watches, four steel guards, and a timepiece, Joseph Roberts, thirty-six, has been sentenced to six months' hard labor.

AN entrance was recently effected into the shop of Joseph Litch, Gallowgate, Glasgow, by breaking through a wall which parted it from a barber's. As the thieves were leaving the premises they were seen by the police, and one of them, James Mullery, thirty-six, captured, with about £85 of goods in his possession.

IN Northumberland, Thomas Steward, twenty-one, William Nulmore, twenty-four, Margaret Brogden, twenty-one, John Rose, twenty-one, were charged with breaking into the shop of Myers Cohen, Cowper Quay, and stealing therefrom property to the value of about £80. Some of the property having been traced to them, they were sentenced, the first two to eighteen months' imprisonment, Brogden to twelve months' hard labor, and Rose to three months' imprisonment.

THE Bootle police were recently very smart. Two of them, hearing a smashing of glass, proceeded to the shop of a jeweler in Derby-road, and finding one of the side windows broken crawled through and found the knight of the jemmy ransacking the place.

ANOTHER lock-up shop was ransacked on the 16th ult., and some sixty gold watches and a number of other things stolen. Sunday appears a favorite day for "lock-up" shops. This one is owned by T. Marsden, Market-square, Burslem. This is also another case of breaking first into the next door, and thence through a weak party wall.

Falling Off in the Swiss Trade.

THE following extract from the *Journal Suisse d'Horlogerie* shows that the depression in trade through which we are passing is not confined to Great Britain. Other extracts would show that America is also an unhappy participant in the same unfortunate state of affairs :—

"The period of depression is getting worse. Our exportations of watches and movements this year (1892) has diminished in value by more than £440,000. The numbers at the same time have decreased by 53,238 for those in gold cases, by 151,991 for those in silver, and by 123,875 for those in common metal cases ; whilst movements show a falling off of 26,223. Chronographs aad repeaters show an increase of 477, but the total value of them has decreased by about £1,580.

"This diminution in trade almost entirely occurs with our seven principal customers, at the head of which is Germany, accounting for a deficit of £154,000; then follow in the order of decrease, Great Britain, France, Russia, the United States, Italy, and Austria.

"A table is given below showing the number and value of our exportations since 1885, the year when official statistics were commenced. From this it will be seen that the past year closely approaches 1885 in the volume of foreign trade; it will further be seen that during this period an important depreciation has taken place in the value of watches in general. An amount equivalent to 10·6 per cent. represents the decrease on those in gold cases, while 21·4 and 12·5 per cent. respectively represent the fall in value of those in silver and common metal cases.

"This reduction in price is undoubtedly partly due to improved methods of machine manufacture, but the principal cause we fear is to be found in the present commercial crisis, which has obliged many manufacturers to dispose of their stocks at almost, if not less than, cost price. Fortunately the first quarter of the present year shows an improvement. We must, therefore, hope that the lowest point has been reached, and that the figures to be added to this table for the year 1893 will mark the first step towards greater prosperity than hitherto."

	GOLD.		SILVER.		METAL.		MOVEM'NTS	
Year	Numb'r	Value in francs.	Number.	Value i francs	Number.	Value in Francs.	N'mb'r	Value in Francs.
1885	441,884	29,223,426	1,731,001	35,296,625	561,271	6,687,199	153,580	1,835,940
1886	437,371	29,849,671	1,737,658	33,669,592	832,743	9,809,043	75,839	1,059,960
1887	477,322	31,275,547	1,945,154	35,413,321	957,940	10,820,203	124,392	1,596,557
1888	446,500	29,868,216	1,864,712	33,255,796	1,139,826	12,173,366	188,027	2,319,883
1889	562,957	35,771,329	2,320,238	39,497,764	1,286,821	13,198,494	261,580	3,085,173
1890	643,335	37,289,943	2,467,686	44,746,214	1,346,875	13,716,861	279,726	2,810,850
1891	555,937	34,113,685	2,367,389	40,587,714	1,409,240	14,726,471	247,507	2,724,730
1892	502,699	29,739,958	2,215,396	35,536,147	1,285,365	13,379,987	221,284	2,451,910

OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

BURKITT, Edwin Robert Anthony, *Watchmaker*, Vauxhall-road, Skirbeck. In this case the public examination disclosed the facts that the liabilities amounted to £98 11s. 1d., and the assets to £33 13s. 6d. Debtor stated that he commenced business in 1891 with £30 capital, £20 of which he borrowed from his mother, and had not repaid. He kept no books of accounts, and never took stock, and he had no idea of his position until he received a County-court summons for £35. The examination was closed.

COLSON, James, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 24, Royal-arcade, and in apartments, 22, King's-road, Cardiff. In this case a receiving order was made on July 1st, and the first meeting of creditors held on July 24th. The examination was fixed for August 1st, at the Town Hall, Cardiff.

CROUCH, Joseph McGregor, *Jeweler*, 202, Regent-street, and Rosslyn, Walford, trading as the Royal Scotch Jewelry Co., Regent-street, the Parisian Diamond Co., Regent-street and Bond-street, and Kelsey's Oriental Bazaar. The first meeting of the creditors in this case was held July 4th, at the London Bankruptcy Buildings. The accounts submitted showed gross liabilities £21,910, of which £20,189 were unsecured, with assets estimated to produce £10,822, the deficiency being returned at £9,669. According to the Official Receiver's report the debtor states that he commenced business in 1873 with a capital of £2,000, and from 1876 to 1879 traded in partnership with another person. About four years ago he also started an additional business in Regent-street, under the style of "The Parisian Diamond Company," and subsequently took other premises at Burlington-arcade and New Bond-street. In 1891 he sold these businesses for £9,000 to his former partner, who gave bills extending over a long period. In November, 1891, the debtor also purchased "Kelsey's Arcade" in Regent-street, for £1,300, trading there under the style of "Kelsey's Oriental Bazaar" until November, 1892, when he removed the stock and assigned the lease for a consideration of £500. In August last he purchased for £2,500 the lease of his premises at 202, Regent-street, and expended £1,500 in fitting up the premises. The debtor's failure was attributable to heavy rent which he formerly paid; to his trade having fallen off during the last two years; and to a loss of £5,500 by a bad debt incurred about three months ago. The Official Receiver asserted that the debtor had not yet furnished a proper account explaining the causes of the deficiency shown in the statement of affairs. Further, that the unsecured debts appeared to be mostly for goods purchased from jewelers and silversmiths during the last twelve months. The debtor intimated that a proposal for a composition or scheme was under consideration. The public examination was held on the 19th ult. In answer to questions put by the Official Receiver, the debtor explained how he had incurred the bad debt of £5,500. A gentleman called at his shop in Regent-street, and said he wanted to make a present to his wife. He gave four references, all of them being London firms, and they all gave the gentleman a good character. On the strength of those references he gave him credit for £5,500 worth of diamonds. The gentleman (a Mr. Saundison) was staying at the First Avenue Hotel, Holborn. Mr. Saundison gave him a bill at two months payable at Montreal, and in due course it was presented, but returned dishonored. In reply to Mr. Hammond, who appeared on his behalf, the debtor said he had been in business twenty-three years, and this was his first failure. A balance-sheet prepared by him on February 16th, 1891, showed an excess of assets over liabilities to the extent of £6,345. From that date until March last he made a profit of £4,000. He took the usual steps to find out if Mr. Saundison was capable of paying for the diamonds. He ascertained that previous to calling upon him Mr. Saundison had purchased jewelry of Birmingham firms to the extent of £4,000, for which he gave a bill at one month, and that was duly met. In another case a jeweler gave him credit to the extent of £7,000. That loss of £5,570 swamped the whole of his profits for the three previous years. When the bill was dishonored he at once consulted his creditors, and they agreed to accept a composition of 15s. in the £, payable by instalments. The composition was accepted by 125 out of 140 creditors. The deed of assignment was duly registered, and then certain creditors took proceedings against him which forced him to file his petition. They were not original creditors but endorsees of bills of exchange. The composition was accepted by creditors to the extent of £19,000 out of £20,000. He gave two reasons for his deficiency; one was the bad debt, and the other was depreciation in the value of his stock. If he had been able to sell that stock in the usual way of business it would have realised its full value, whereas, in his opinion, the stock, which was valued at £18,476, would only realise £6,000 at a forced sale by auction. He had been informed that the trustee had sold the stock for £10,000 or £12,000. The business as a going concern was worth 15s. in the £. The Registrar remarked that three deficiency accounts had been filed in this case. In the first account the depreciation on the stock was set down as £10,400 and bad debts £5,510. In the second deficiency account the depreciation on stock is reduced to £9,600; as someone seemed to have suggested to debtor that he must have drawn something from the business for household expenses, therefore the debtor deducts £800 from the depreciation of stock account, and sets down that amount as household expenses. It is afterwards discovered that the debtor has made a profit of £2,800 in the period covered by the deficiency account, therefore a third deficiency account is filed, and the £2,800 is put on the left hand-side of the account. To make the account balance, the depreciation account, which was first £10,400, then £9,600, is raised to £12,400. He considered that the deficiency account had been simply "cooked," either by the debtor or by the accountant who made out the account for him. It was truly sickening the way in which deficiency accounts were made out, as the figures on the one side were simply made to tally with those on the other side. Under the Bankruptcy Act of 1890, it was an offence to leave a portion of the deficiency unaccounted for. In reply to the Registrar as to which account was correct, the debtor said the last one, in which the depreciation was set down at £12,400. The debtor further stated that when he filed the first deficiency account he was told it would not do, as he had not set down anything for household expenses. The bad debt and the depreciation covered his deficiency. The trustee had now sold the stock for a sum sufficient to pay 10s. in the £. The Official Receiver said in the second deficiency account it was pointed out to debtor that according to his stock-book the depreciation on the stock amounted to £12,000; therefore it was suggested to him that he must have made a profit during the period covered by the account, and he was instructed to amend his account accordingly. The examination was then ordered to be closed. The list of creditors appeared in our June issue.

DAVY, Elijah, *Watchmaker*, St. Peter's-Paved-Row East, Great Yarmouth, has been adjudicated, and a receiving order made. The first meeting of creditors was held at the Official Receiver's, Norwich, on the 14th ult., and the examination at the Town Hall, Great Yarmouth, on the 25th ult. The total debts are estimated at £374, and in addition £150 partly secured. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Greenwood, John, and Sons	London	16	2	5
Hirsch, Pritchard, and Co.	,,	11	5	6
Hobson and Son	,,	13	0	0
Potter and Son	,,	13	10	0
Stoepiger, A. G.	,,	10	0	0
Unna, H. A.	,,	70	0	0
Burrows and Mills	Birmingham	16	0	0
Lewis Bros.	,,	10	0	0
Watts, G. and F. E.	,,	16	0	0
Pitchers, Robert	Great Yarmouth	130	0	0
Myers, Joseph	Manchester	50	0	0

DOTTAR, John Nepomucene, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, late 12, Market-street, Leicester. The gross liabilities are returned at £987 15s. 7d., of which £942 13s. 11d. are expected to rank for dividend, and the assets at £21 16s. 8d., the whole of which is required to meet preferential payments. The debtor explains his failure by stating that the expenses of the business had been greater than the profits. At the creditors' meeting the Official Receiver stated that the receiving order was made on a creditor's petition, the act of bankruptcy upon which it was founded being a notice to a creditor that he had suspended or was about to suspend payment of his debts. In the year 1886 the debtor acquired a jewelry business, No. 12, Market-place, Leicester, by his marriage with the widow of the former proprietor of the same business—Mr. Joseph Willman. The business has been carried on in the debtor's name since his marriage. His stock-in-trade was sold about five weeks ago under a distress for rent. The debtor is now travelling as an insurance agent. He states that he had a capital of £160 of his own when he started, besides the stock which he took over, which, according to a book containing an account of the stock-taking, dated August

16th, 1886, was worth £1,080 13s. 7d. There were other assets amounting to £118, and liabilities of £211 18s. 10d. There was another stock-taking on August 18th, 1891, when the assets were £1,001 14s. 10d., and the liabilities £241 5s., so that he was worth £760 7s. 10d. two years ago, if the above amount is correct. The unsecured liabilities are all trade debts. The security in the hands of the creditors partly secured is a policy on the debtor's life. So far as is known there are no assets except a few book debts. There will be no offer of composition, and the debtor has been adjudged bankrupt.

GILPIN, HENRY, *Wholesale Jeweler* (GILPIN AND CO., trading as), 20, VYSE-STREET, BIRMINGHAM. At the adjourned public examination of the above the following facts were elicited. Before opening a small retail jeweler's in Regent-street, Sheffield, he was a working jeweler. He had no difficulty in getting credit, and for four or five years his business was satisfactory. In 1880 he took a situation as traveller, four days a week, for Messrs. Bishton and Fletcher, of Birmingham. These gentlemen, he alleged, advised him to sell the Sheffield business to his apprentice, Crapper, who paid him in bills £800 or £900 for it. Crapper, who had previously been very steady, suddenly increased his expenditure and never paid more than £50 to £100 on the bills. He took the business back from Crapper, but was not able to pull it round. In 1886 he filed a petition at Sheffield, and had not obtained his discharge. He again went to Birmingham immediately after the petition, and started in business at Vyse-street. He did not tell the creditors that he was an undischarged bankrupt, but some of them knew through his connection with Bishton and Fletcher. Letters were produced from several of the creditors complaining that the bankrupt had never informed them of his position as an undischarged bankrupt, and stating that if he had told them they would not have trusted him. At the next examination other matters will be gone into.

HALSTEAD, JAMES, *Jeweler and Fancy Goods Dealer*, 15, ABEL-STREET, AND MARKET-HALL, BURNLEY. Discharge granted as from June 10th, 1895.

JEFFERY, WILLIAM, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 9, CIRCUS-ROAD, ST. JOHN'S WOOD. In this case a receiving order was made on June 19th, and the first meeting held July 11th, and examination July 27th. The statement of affairs shows unsecured creditors, most of whom are not in the trade, £279 14s. 7d. Fully secured creditor, Star Life Office, £25. Preferential creditors, £47 8s. 7d. Estimated value of securities, £26. Stock-in-trade, trade fixtures, household furniture, and book debts, less preferential creditor £105 1s. 4d., thus leaving a deficit of £174 13s. 3d.

LISSMAN, ISIDORE, *Jeweler*, 24, PETWORTH-STREET, CHEETHAM, MANCHESTER. The examination of this debtor took place on the 4th ult., at the Manchester Bankruptcy Court. The debtor stated that his liabilities amounted to £1,268, while his assets were worth practically nil. He had carried on his present business for eleven years, commencing with a capital of £50, his own money. The causes of his insolvency were illness, betting on horse races, and bad debts. With reference to the bad debts he stated that he sold Mr. Samuel Goldstrahlt goods valued at £163, and had not seen him since. The Official Receiver, however, suggested that Goldstrahlt was a fictitious person and the debtor admitted he had no proof to the contrary. During the last twelve months he had lost £800 or £900 in horse betting. He had betted at most of the big meetings on a system which had proved unsuccessful. He first knew he was insolvent last February, but he could not admit that since July 1st last he had had goods and cash to the extent of nearly £1,200 for which he had made no payment. Within the past twelve months he had pawned goods to the extent of from £100 to £150. It was a custom of the trade to pawn goods and sell the tickets. On transactions of that kind a very good profit was made. He had kept no books of account. He had a wife and one child, and his living expenses had been at the rate of £260 a year. Examined by Mr. Porter, on behalf of Birmingham creditors, the debtor said he had not been betting since the receiving order was made, but he had been at race meetings. He had been to Chester and to Manchester. He did not bet, but his friend Mr. Leopold King did. Mr. King found the cash and he (the debtor) found the brains. On the occasion of last year's Derby he was in the half-guinea ring. He admitted that originally he scheduled as an asset a sum of £350 money lent by him, and that as to £300 of that sum the entry was untrue. Within the last year he had sold goods to a person named Mann, but that was the only name he could remember. He was in the habit of selling the pawn tickets for goods in public-houses, but he did not remember the names of any of those houses. In reply to his counsel, the debtor stated that although he could not remember the names of the public-houses he could go to some of them and find out their names. They were all over the country. The examination was adjourned.

NICHOLAS, JOHN SAMUEL, *Jeweler*, DAVENTRY, was adjudicated on the 8th ult.

ROBERTSON, ROBERT LENNOX, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 527, GOVAN-ROAD, GLASGOW, was recently examined, or rather appeared for examination, as the trustee stated there were no questions to ask. The statement of affairs showed liabilities £278 6s. 2d. and assets £108 8s. 2d. The statutory oath was administered.

SALKIN, SOLOMON, *Watchmaker*, 13, POTTERGATE, NORWICH, formerly of Prince's-street, and elsewhere. In this case liabilities are over £200, with no assets. In reply to the Official Receiver at the meeting, bankrupt said he commenced business about thirty years ago. In 1881 he filed a petition in the Norwich Bankruptcy Court, and his creditors were good enough to give him his discharge. Since then he had re-started, and had kept no books, because he had given no credit. He had been insolvent for three years past. Bankrupt said that he would have filed his petition before if he had had the money to do so. Examination closed.

SANDEMAN, JACOB, *Jeweler*, 13, BENSON-STREET, late 47, BOLD-STREET, LIVERPOOL. In this extraordinary case, in which a receiving order was made in June, the first meeting was held at the Official Receiver's, Liverpool, on July 5th, and when the debtor should have appeared a medical certificate was handed in stating that he was too ill to attend, and would probably be so for a month. The Official Receiver said he was very anxious to see this young man, who, he stated, was in the employ of a jeweler in Liverpool six months ago, at a salary of £2 10s. a week. He then opened a shop in Bold-street, and carried it on up to his failure, and he was now deficient £3,964 10s. 2d. Debtor alleged that he had lost this money in betting, living beyond his means, being in bad company, and losing various goods in brothels. The Official Receiver said he would send his own medical man to see the debtor and report, and after that he would apply to the court. The debtor had supplied a long list of races at which he said he had lost £1,920; but the creditors were naturally anxious to know at once what had become of their property. An adjournment was then taken till the 10th ult., when, debtor having been examined by a doctor, a further remand was made. The following are the principal creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Alexander Bros., Ltd.	London	303	0	7
Bendon, G., and Co.	,,	73	18	6
Berrick Bros....	,,	54	0	6
Chapman, Son, and Co.	,,	70	8	3
Continental Agency Co.	,,	37	18	3
Faudel, Phillips, and Sons	,,	70	15	6
Franck, S. M.	,,	23	13	6
Garrud, W. F.	,,	26	1	0
Gay, E., Lamaille, and Co....	,,	22	5	6
Harris, Charles S.	,,	54	7	3
Jacquemin, J. B. Bros.	,,	50	13	8
Landsberg,—...	,,	70	0	0
Marples, Robert M.	,,	23	10	6
Miller Bros.	,,	36	13	10
Mordan, S., and Co....	,,	101	0	9
Nathan, Walter, and Bros.	,,	25	18	10
Price, Herbert, and Co.	,,	44	6	11
Rosenthal and Co.	,,	20	5	6
Siegele and Bennett..	,,	35	8	8
Singleton Benda and Co.	,,	30	18	0
Tutuer, S. F....	,,	342	0	0
Wacholder and Co.	,,	241	0	0
Weill and Co....	,,	157	4	0
Williamson and Co., Limited	,,	172	0	0
Wolfsky and Co., Limited	,,	31	7	4
Allday, John, and Son	Birmingham	73	0	3
Blackensee, J., and Co.	,,	45	5	0
Booth, E. F., and Sons	,,	167	0	0
Carnelly, E. J., and Co.	,,	21	1	7
Cohen Bros.	,,	143	5	0
Cooke, William	,,	63	16	0
Hayes Bros.	,,	69	5	10
Hayes, Thomas	,,	67	17	5
Horton, John	,,	114	10	6
Hughes, T. and J.	,,	20	10	0
Jacobs, E., and Son	,,	153	10	0

Joseph, B. H., and Co.	,,	328	6	5
Levetus, Ed. M.	,,	500	0	0
Nathan Bros.	,,	108	12	9
Silverston, Isaac and Co.	,,	65	4	0
Thorneywork, W.	,,	51	16	5
Villers and Jackson	,,	60	2	4
Lyon, Samuel, jun.	Blackpool	161	13	3
Kellie, John	Liverpool	77	0	0
Sandeman, Mrs. A.	,,	876	0	0
Roley, J.	Manchester	34	18	0
Willis, Mark, and Son	Sheffield	43	11	7
Beardshaw, A., and Co.	,,	26	6	8
Dewsnap, James	,,	20	15	0
Heller and Askonsas	Teplitz	24	17	0
PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS		135	13	10

SHERWOOD, EDWARD GEORGE, *Jeweler*, late of PICCADILLY, W. This debtor has received his immediate discharge.

WEIL, ISIDORE, *Jeweler*, MUSEUM-STREET, BLOOMSBURY, who it may be remembered, among other things, was a victim of ruby mining, has had his discharge suspended for two years.

DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT.

AARON, JACOB, trading as MICHAEL JACOB, *Jeweler's Factor*, 88, VYSE-STREET, BIRMINGHAM, AND 56, CLAREMONT-ROAD, HANDSWORTH. Trustee : Allen Edwards, C.A., Bennett's-hill, Birmingham, with a committee of inspection. Secured creditors, £536 4s. 3d. Filed, June 24th. Unsecured liabilities, £4,639 7s. 2d. Estimated net assets, £2,419 9s. 9d. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Koch and Co.	London	34	2	0
Manger, Mojon, and Co.	,,	230	7	6
Dingley, Hegman, and Co.	Birmingham	23	4	4
Jackson Bros.	,,	51	1	2
Levy, David	,,	43	6	6
Britton, B. H., and Sons	,,	239	12	2
Booth and Biggs, Limited	,,	29	17	3
Booth, E. F., and Sons	,,	33	7	0
Oliver, W.	,,	28	9	8
Perks, Mark	,,	23	13	2
Radbone, W. H. and F.	,,	112	9	7
Vaughan, E.	,,	88	5	8
Adams, W. H.	Coventry	87	9	6
Kinder, Thomas	,,	212	7	0
Abrahams, S.	Glasgow	26	0	0
Kundert, F.	Handsworth	52	0	0
Frederia, Jacob	,,	1,150	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS		2,248	18	4

There are also some particulars about this case which we regret we are not at present in a position to publish.

ADAMS, WILLIAM W., trading as ADAMS AND CO., *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 207, HIGH-STREET, WEST BROMWICH, has executed a deed of arrangement, filed July 12th, with J. W. B. Brown, 1A, Prudential Buildings, Corporation-street, Birmingham, as trustee. The unsecured liabilities are £2,037 0s. 3d.; secured creditors, £85 8s.; assets, £756 11s. 2d. The following are amongst the creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Fulda and Davis	London	63	0	0
Jeannot, P.	,,	30	0	0
Griffiths, W., and Sons	Birmingham	78	0	0
Rooker, J.	,,	82	0	0
Payton, F. W.	,,	113	0	0
Crossbee, A. W., and Co.	,,	61	0	0
Levy, D.	,,	81	0	0
Blackensee, —	,,	22	0	0
Newsome and Co.	Coventry	369	0	0
Cooke, —	,,	133	0	0
Wilcox, M.	,,	206	0	0
Yeomans, S.	,,	30	0	0
Fulwell and Co.	,,	27	0	0
Bayley, F. J.	Handsworth	120	0	0
Adams, W. J.	West Bromwich	80	0	0
Haines	,,	24	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS		202	0	0
PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS		40	0	0

CLARIDGE, HANNAH, *Jeweler*, 22, HIGH-STREET, CHEPSTOW. A deed of assignment and inspectorship with a view to payment of a composition of 7s. 6d. in the £, by three equal instalments, on October 1st, 1893, January 1st, and April 1st, 1894, secured by a surety, was filed July 1st. Unsecured liabilities, £348 7s. 6½d. Estimated net assets, £155. Trustee : Alfred E. Kingsford, auctioneer, Chepstow. The following are amongst the creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Stockall, J. J.	London	16	8	6
Milleret and Co.	,,	24	15	9
Lowe and Willett	Birmingham	23	19	11
Greenberg and Co.	,,	32	0	0
Rowen and Co.	,,	31	0	0
Hall and Fitzgerald	Bristol	27	10	3
Akers and Co.	Cardiff	23	3	0
Baker and Co.	Sheffield	20	18	5
Helley and Co.	,,	25	0	0

CUNNINGHAM, ROBERT WILLIAM, *Jeweler and Musical Instrument Dealer*, 76, OXFORD-STREET, MANCHESTER, on the 17th ult. filed a deed of arrangement. Trustee : Frederick W. Franks, accountant., 14, Brown-street, Manchester. The unsecured liabilities are £475 12s. 6d., and estimated net assets £187 1s. Among the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Alban, Voight, and Co.	London	35	0	0
Joseph, B. H.	,,	68	13	6
Cross and Co.	Birmingham	130	0	0
Harris, H., and Co.	,,	60	0	0
Sharpe and Green	,,	30	0	0
Trotter and Co.	Manchester	82	0	0

FOWLER, WALTER, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 219, LONDON-ROAD, LIVERPOOL, has executed a deed of arrangement with a view to payment of a composition of 10s. in the £, which was filed on the 10th ult. Trustees : Solomon Lyon, jeweler, Birmingham, and others. The unsecured liabilities are £442 2s. 10½d. Estimated net assets, £260. Amongst the creditors are —

		£	s.	d.
Waterbury Watch Co.	London	16	3	6
Lyon, Solomon	Birmingham	89	13	11
Sharpe and Green	,,	78	7	9
Round, S.	,,	42	15	2

MANNINGS, ALFRED AUSTIN, *Watchmaker*, 244, NORTH END-ROAD, FULHAM, on June 30th filed a deed of arrangement. The unsecured liabilities are £146 13s. 6d. Estimated net assets, £130. Trustee : Marie A. Perrier, watch importer, 15, Charterhouse-street, E.C. The list of creditors includes :—

		£	s.	d.
Perrier, M. A.	London	30	0	0
Grimshaw and Baxter	,,	15	0	0
Unna, H. A.	,,	50	0	0
Ahronsberg Bros.	Birmingham	14	8	6
Stainton, —	,,	15	0	0
Briggs and Co.	Sheffield	20	0	0

MOSES, MAURICE, *Silversmith and Jeweler*, 464, OXFORD-STREET, W., on July 12th filed a deed of arrangement with a view to make a composition of 7s. 6d. in the £, payable by six equal instalments, on October 5th, 1893, January 5th, April 5th, July 5th, October 5th, 1894, and January 5th, 1895, last two instalments to be secured. Secured creditors, £1,763 18s. Unsecured liabilities, £4,023 1s. 9d. Estimated net assets, £1,501 2s. Amongst the list of creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Alexander Bros.	London	100	0	0
Ansell, J. M.	,,	174	0	0
Atkin Bros.	,,	32	0	0
Barnard and Sons	,,	188	0	0
Bendon, George, and Co.	,,	15	0	0
Comyns, W., and Son	,,	195	0	0
Judge, Mark	,,	208	0	0
Glaser, C.	,,	33	0	0
Gourdel, Vales, and Co.	,,	44	0	0
Hagger, J. H.	,,	112	0	0
Harrison Bros. and Howson	,,	51	0	0
Litchfield, Frederick	,,	240	0	0
Moses, Ralph	,,	50	0	0
Nyburg and Co.	,,	179	0	0
Osborne, —	,,	26	0	0
Pedlar, William	,,	33	0	0
Saunders and Shepherd	,,	72	0	0
Selim, H., and Co.	,,	100	0	0
Smith, G. Gilbert	,,	37	0	0
Truman, W.	,,	61	0	0
Unite, George, and Sons	,,	60	0	0
Weiner, Samuel	,,	60	0	0
Wilkinson, H., and Co.	,,	32	0	0
Zachariah, —	,,	30	0	0
Major, W. Tenison	,,	242	0	0
Benson, —	,,	20	0	0
Antrobus, P.	Birmingham	53	0	0
Blackensee and Sons, Ltd.	,,	650	0	0

		£	s.	d.
Nathan and Hayes	,,	116	0	0
Glaser Bros.	Hanan	245	0	0
Rosenan, Simon	Paris	325	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS		69	0	0

RUFF, GEORGE HENRY, *Importer of Watches*, 44, BURGHLEY-ROAD, HIGHGATE-ROAD, N., on July 17th filed a deed of arrangement. Composition of 4s. in the £, payable by two equal instalments at three and six months from date here of, secured by a surety, and also assignment upon trust until default. Trustee: James Morris, 39, The Outer Temple. Unsecured liabilities, £1,573 14s. 9d. Estimated net assets, £367 2s. List of creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Castleberg, A. (agent)	London	53	3	1
Fulda and David	,,	32	2	0
Little, James, and Co.	,,	148	1	6
Enay, Edward	,,	25	0	0
Thievent Fils	Berne	113	10	0
Ruff, M. and F. A.	Glasgow	200	0	0
Ruff, F. A.	,,	26	0	0
Obrecht, Euselius	Grenchen	493	2	11
Jullaird, E.	Porrentrug	26	10	c
Vigier, Raoul	Soleurne le Suisse	195	5	6
Willig, Humbert, and Co.	,,	242	19	9

STONIER, ALFRED, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, formerly of 48, LAYGATE-LANE, and now 11, ARGYLE-TERRACE, SOUTH SHIELDS. Deed filed July 6th. Unsecured liabilities, £69 10s. 5d. Estimated net assets, £18 10s. Trustee: Henry Farthing, Keppel-street Sale-rooms, South Shields, auctioneer.

TURNER, CORNELIUS, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 4, NORTH-STREET, TAUNTON. Filed July 13th. Unsecured liabilities, £1,145 14s. 3d. Estimated net assets, £560 10s. Trustee: George G. Poppleton, accountant, 26, Corporation-street, Birmingham, with a committee of inspection. Amongst the creditors are:—

		£	s.	d.
Thompson, J., and Sons	London	33	0	0
Blanckensee, Meyer	Birmingham	109	0	0
Bowen and Sons	,,	36	0	0
Mott, T. L.	,,	37	0	0
Lock, W.	,,	20	0	0
Constantine and Floyd	,,	26	0	0
Barnett, B.	,,	20	0	0
Platneur, Bros.	Bristol	20	0	0
Summerhaye, J.	Curry Rivel	115	0	0
Parkin and Marshall	Sheffield	15	0	0
Turner, Isaac	Taunton	300	0	0
Fox, Fowler, and Co.	,	120	0	0
Chelk, H. A.	,,	30	0	0

WHEEL, WILLIAM, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 10, WEST LAWRENCE-STREET, SUNDERLAND, has executed a deed of assignment for the benefit of creditors, filed June 30th. Composition of 5s. in the £, payable on or before July 11th, 1893, secured by assignment to trustee. Trustee: George Sheraton, 67, High-street, West Sunderland. Unsecured liabilities, £174 2s. 9d. Estimated net assets, £94 18s. 10d. The creditors include:—Travers and Kessell, London, £18 12s.; Round and Son, Ltd., Sheffield, £12 4s.; Wherby and Sheraton, Sunderland, £110 8s. 3d.; Rent, £13.

WILSON, GEORGE WILLIAM, *Watchmaker and General Dealer*, 4, WELBECK-STREET, CASTLEFORD, has made an assignment of book debts to trustee for benefit of creditors; should proceeds be insufficient to meet a composition of 10s. in the £, debtor covenants to make up deficiency within six months from date of realisation of whole of said debts. Trustee: Thomas Ford, C.A., Leeds. Dated June 24th, filed July 1st. Unsecured liabilities, £120 4s. 2d. Estimated net assets, £141 18s. Amongst the creditors are:—Lyons, Solomon, Birmingham, £63 19s. 6d.; Cooke, John, and Co., Leeds, £39 13s. 9d.; Knight, John, and Co., Leeds, £10 10s. 11d.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED.

BROOKE, GEORGE HENRY, *Wholesale Jeweler*, 20, PARKHURST-ROAD, BOWES PARK. Dividend of 1s. at Official Receiver's, 95, Temple-chambers, Temple-avenue, E.C., July 12th.

SEELEY, GEORGE HENRY, *Jeweler*, 25, BRIDGE-STREET, LLANGOLLEN. Second and final dividend of 3d. at Official Receiver's, Chester.

DISSOLUTIONS OF PARTNERSHIP.

FRANKLIN, E. (EMANUEL FRANKLIN AND EDWARD TEMPERLEY GOURLEY), *Jewelers*, 71 AND 73, ST. MARY AXE, July 12th. Debts by E. T. Gourley, who continues under the style of E. Franklin and Co.

JOHNSON, H., AND SON, *Jewelers and Watchmakers*, 10, WAINGATE, SHEFFIELD, May 4th. Debts by Herbert William Johnson and Harry Johnson, who continue under the same style.

MARKS, A., AND SONS, *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, 10, BIGG-MARKET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, July 7th.

WINDING UP OF PUBLIC COMPANIES.

WATERBURY WATCH SALES COMPANY, LIMITED.—Resolution passed June 19th, confirmed July 5th:—That it is desirable to reconstruct the company, and accordingly that the company be wound up voluntarily.

◆

"The Lal-i-Shah Chiragh" Diamond.—The Amir of Bokhara was so pleased at the manner he was received in St. Petersburg on the occasion of a recent visit, that he presented the Czar with the above treasure. This gem is said to date from the time of Gengis Khan, who obtained it from the Badakshan mines. The diamond, in the opinion of the natives, is believed to possess almost supernatural brilliancy.

The Glasgow Goldsmiths' Company and Hall Marking.—The above company held their annual meeting in their hall on the 3rd ult., Mr. F. D. Rait in the chair. The following wardens were re-elected:—Messrs. Fred D. Rait, Robert Sorley, Thomas Smith, and Daniel Todd, with James Black, assay master. It was reported that there was a large increase in the number of silver articles hall-marked since the abolition of duty. It was resolved that the same dues should be charged as formerly for assaying and hall-marking gold and silver wares.

Idaho Tales of Treasures.—More news of grand discoveries of gems in Idaho are in circulation, despite the sad end of former exaggerations. They are not diamonds this time but opals—"opals as large as pigeons' eggs have been taken out of a pocket in one of the mines," might sound very alluring to the innocent, but not to anyone who knows the facts of the case, nor is there likely to be any decrease in the price of the harlequin gem in consequence of the extra market supply.

A New Use for Long Locks.—Our omnivorous contemporary *Tit Bits* gives the following: "A manufacturing jeweler recently remarked that some of his employes had begun to wear their hair unusually long. He watched them more closely and discovered that they frequently greased their hands, rubbed them over with gold filings and diamond chips, and then carefully passed them through their hair. It was their custom at night to cleanse their hair with fine combs, and collect and sell the gold particles and diamond dust stolen in the manner above described." The fact that gold workers have nothing to do with diamond chips and dust makes the anecdote highly improbable or a draw of the long bow.

Electric Clocks Driven from a Central Station.—There have been numerous attempts to drive a system of timekeepers by electricity, but in most instances the attempt has failed, usually from the high cost involved in installation and maintenance. A system now before the German public seeks to obviate this by driving from a central station like glow or arc lamps, not by a special company, but by an electric lighting one. A special clock has been patented for this purpose, which is regulated at five every morning. Like all new inventions, it is going to revolutionise our system of time-keeping, but time proves all things.

Optical Literature.—The important paper furnished to the *Mineralogical Magazine*, Vol. IX., No. 44, by L. Fletcher, M.A., F.R.S., Keeper of Minerals in the British Museum, "On the Transmission of Light in Crystals," has been somewhat amplified and printed in book form (Frowde). This is probably the most important contribution to the subject that has appeared, and, although it is possibly a little too deep for general opticians, we are pleased to know there are many connected with various branches of the trade who have a fair claim to be classed amongst the scientific men of day, and several members of the trade, both active and retired, are now contributing to the literature of several branches of science, who will welcome and peruse with interest this great revolution of many of our present ideas of the nature of light and crystals. Thus we usually speak in accordance with Fresnel's theory of the incompressibility of the ether and "axes of optical elasticity," things we have got to regard as facts, and usually looked upon as the mainspring and balance of our optical conceptions. In this paper, however, we are asked to abandon these theories, and something more simple is offered in a compressible ether, and an *optical indicatrix*. Still we fear we shall continue to use our old expressions as best understood when we describe the action of gems upon light until the world (and perhaps ourselves) adopts these new theories and nomenclature.

Translation.—Swiss Federal Tribunal.

Extract of the judgment of the Swiss Federal Tribunal of April 21st 1893 in the case of the

"AMERICAN WALTHAM WATCH COMPANY," in Boston and Waltham (Massachusetts) v. Maurice Woog and Jules Grumbach, heads of the firm Woog and Grumbach in la Chaux de Fonds, re COUNTERFEITING of TRADE MARKS, i.e. usurpation of commercial name.

Since several years the American Waltham Watch Company had perceived that watches which were not made by said Company and bore notwithstanding the mark "American Watch Co." were sold in the countries where said Company sold its products.

A traveller for the Company saw in 1889 in a shop at Rio de Janeiro a watch similar to those made by his firm, he bought the watch which bore the number 55696, it is a silver lépine, with gilt works. On the movement besides the mark "American Watch Co." the number is engraved, on the outside of dome the mark "American Watch Co." is also engraved in English characters. On the dial are the words "Watch Co." The same traveller saw other similar watches at Bahia, Pernambuco and Buenos Ayres.

The American Waltham Watch Company succeeded in discovering that the watch number 55696 had been made by the firm Ed. and J. Sandoz in Locle and that the firm Woog and Grumbach in la Chaux de Fonds sold similar watches bearing also the mark "American Watch Co."

J. Ph. Sandoz acknowledged having on order of Woog and Grumbach inscribed on the dial, the movement and the dome of watches the words "American Watch Co."—Woog and Grumbach on their side did not deny having given this order to the firm Sandoz.

On the 9th of January 1891 the American Waltham Watch Company brought before the Courts of Neuchâtel a civil action v. Woog and Grumbach and by judgment of November the 8th and December the 10th 1892 the Cantonal Tribunal of Neuchâtel decided as follows.

1.—Woog and Grumbach are forbidden to inscribe on their products or to have inscribed on the products which they order to be executed the words "American Watch Co." or any other inscription, designation or mark containing the words "American Watch Co."

2.—The destruction and confiscation of all illicit marks, and of all tools which have served for the counterfeiting are ordered.

3.—The firm Woog and Grumbach and its heads Maurice Woog and Jules Grumbach are condemned altogether and once for all to pay to the American Waltham Watch Company for damages, the sum of 7083 francs with interest at 5% per annum from the 10th January 1891, date of the introduction of the demand.

4.—The American Waltham Watch Company is authorised to publish in two Swiss and in two foreign newspapers at its choice, at the expense of Woog and Grumbach in the portion reserved for advertisements, an extract of the present judgment.

5.—The firm Woog and Grumbach and its heads above mentioned are condemned altogether and once for all to pay the costs and expenses of the suit.

Both parties have appealed to the Federal Tribunal against this judgment.

The judgment rendered by this latter Court on April 21st 1893 contains amongst others in its legal considerations the following notices.

As to the question whether defendants have counterfeited or imitated the Trade mark of plaintiff Company it is certain that the watch—number 55696 bought in Rio de Janeiro has been made and sold by the defendants, besides when the domiciliary visitation was made in April 10th 1890 there was found at the firm of Woog and Grumbach a large quantity of Watches which they were preparing to export which bore the designations "Watch Co." and "American Watch Co."

Besides the probational procedure allowed the Cantonal jurisdiction to acquire the certitude that Woog and Grumbach have made or caused to be made and sold 1574 Watches marked "American Watch Co."—thus by using for their watches made in la Chaux de Fonds the designation "American Watch Co." the defendants Woog and Grumbach have made use of a trade mark belonging to somebody else and enjoying legal protection, they have not counterfeited said mark since they have not reproduced it in its integral tenor of "American Watch Co. Waltham Mass.," but they have evidently imitated it by reproducing the principal elements so as to lead the public into error as to the source of manufacture.

Although the existence of fraud on part of the defendants is not necessary according to art. 19 of the Federal law of 19th December 1879, in order to justify the conclusions of the claim for damages and although a simple fault, imprudence or negligence on their part suffices to that purpose, the opinion of the Cantonal Tribunal is expressly conducive to the result, that de facto Woog and Grumbach knew the existence of the plaintiff Company, that they could not ignore it but that notwithstanding they exported their products precisely to those countries where the American Watch Company of Waltham sells its own.

According to this opinion it is to be admitted that the defendants have used in a fraudulent intention the mark "American Watch Co." this mark namely designated the origin of the merchandise and Woog and Grumbach have knowingly engraved it on their own products knowing well the existence of its owner who had published in the "Feuille Fédérale" in 1882 the notice of the deposit of said mark in Switzerland said mark having previously been deposited in England—it is therefore proper to apply to the Case Art 18 litt le etc of said Federal law.

For above motives the Federal Tribunal Pronounces—

1.—The appeals are rejected, and the judgment rendered between the parties by the Cantonal Tribunal of Neuchâtel on November 8th and December 10th 1892 are maintained both in contents as in regard to the costs with exception as to the amount of the damages—as to this point said judgment is partially revised in this sense that the firm Woog and Grumbach and its heads Maurice Woog and Jules Grumbach are condemned altogether and once for all to pay to the American Waltham Watch Company the sum of seven thousand five hundred francs (7500 frs) with interest at 5°/o per annum from the 10th January 1891 date of the introduction of the demand.

2.—A legal emolument of 80 francs besides the costs of copy and disbursements amounting to 50 frs 60 c are put to the charge of the party Woog and Grumbach who will also pay to the opposite party the sum of 100 frs for expenses.

3.—The present judgment will be communicated by copy to the Cantonal Tribunal of Neuchâtel and to each of the parties—

Extract thus decreed by the Swiss Federal Tribunal in its sitting of June 16th 1893 in view of the publication in the papers at the expense of the defendants.

The President
(Signed) HAFNER
The Secretary
(Signed) Dr E DE WEISS

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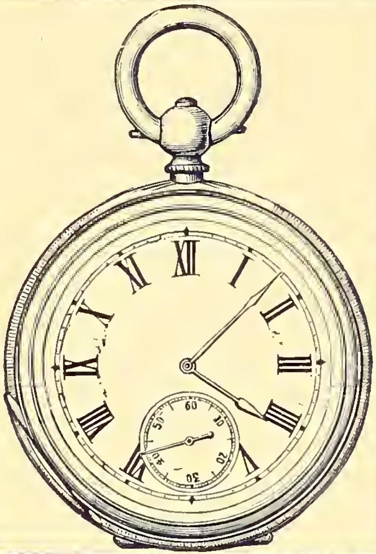

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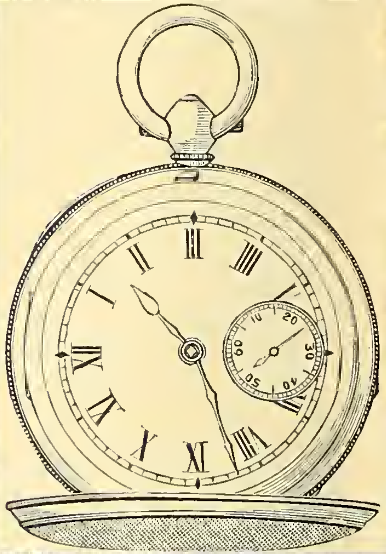

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Edited by W. J. LEWIS ABBOTT, F.G.S.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.] [*Registered for Transmission Abroad.*

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IN THE INTERESTS OF THE TRADE.

NO CUTTING PRICES!

Cutting prices are not allowed to be advertised in this Journal; and no prices of any kind can be permitted to appear except such as come under the following headings:—

1. **Retail or selling prices to the public.**
2. **The prices of patented or registered articles, or special articles manufactured and sold by one firm alone.**
3. **The prices of outfits, plants, tools, instruments, materials, publications, &c., intended for, or used by the trade.**

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SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The Annual Subscription throughout the World is 5s., including postage; and it is payable in all cases in advance. Single current numbers are charged at 6d. each, 7½d. by post.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—There is a fixed printed tariff for trade advertisements, which will be forwarded on application. All prepaid situation and similar advertisements are inserted at 6d. per line (minimum 1s.). Name and Address in the Buyers' Guide, One Guinea per annum, payable in advance.

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS.—Manuscripts should be written clearly on one side of the paper only, and should in every case be accompanied by the name and address of the sender; where payment is expected, a definite statement to that effect should be made. The Editor cannot be responsible for missing MSS., but every care will be taken of copy submitted for consideration.

INQUIRIES.—Information is given, whenever possible, to inquirers, who are requested to assist by giving the fullest details of the matters to which their questions relate. In special cases replies will be given through the post, and for this purpose addressed and stamped envelopes must be supplied.

PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, & DESIGNS.—Arrangements have been made with an expert whereby subscribers to this journal can receive information respecting these free of charge. Letters of inquiry must be addressed to the Editor of The Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith, Patents, Trade Marks, and Designs Department, 68, Fleet-street, London, E.C., and must in every case contain stamped and directed envelope for reply.

The Reid Ophthalmoscope.—At a recent meeting of the Royal Society, Dr. Thomas Reid, of Glasgow, described a new ophthalmoscope for specially measuring the curvature of the optical zone of the cornea; it will, therefore, probably be of great use in connection with corneal astigmatism. Of course its operations need not be limited to the cornea; the curvature of any reflecting surface with a radius of from 6 to 12 mm. can be measured by it.

ENTRE NOUS
HARPOCRATES.

By the Editor.

THE SUPPLY OF TRADE LITERATURE.

Owing to the numerous applications we are continually receiving from all parts for the names of text books and handy books of reference, and the difficulty and even inability of readers to obtain the works they require, we have decided to undertake an agency for all trade literature. At present we have not been able to complete the list, or to arrange with all the publishers, but our catalogue, which appears elsewhere in this journal, offers a very extensive selection. If any of our readers know of any other useful work connected with our trades—still in print—we shall be glad to hear of it. We regret that many volumes of the greatest importance and interest which have been written are out of print, so that they cannot now be supplied. The literature connected with some branches of our trades unfortunately is very limited indeed, while in other branches that which directly bears upon it is quite the reverse, till one scarcely knows which books to select as best. Even as it is there are many first-class works on mechanics, mathematics, and several other subjects to which we have not given a place in our list, not because of their inferiority, but because they happen to belong to a class represented by a very profuse literature. Perhaps, too, our own library has had something to do with the choice, as we either have in our possession or are familiar with almost all the works which we have catalogued; and with their titles we have usually given some slight indication of the nature of the contents of the given work.

Of course it is by no means indispensably necessary for anyone to be in possession of all works here enumerated. When half-a-dozen books are written on one subject, necessarily they must often go over the same ground. But in this case we are no worse off than any other of the crafts. Each volume, however, contains something not to be found in any of the others, and each work adds some new strength to our knowledge, and thus contributes to make us more successful in the struggle for existence in a business which daily grows more and more difficult. We are often extremely pained to see old processes in operation, and time, money, and good intentions being recklessly squandered over them, while contemporary with this we see rising a little cloud, at first no bigger than a man's hand, gradually spreading itself over the whole firmament, until our industrious, well-intentioned friend, so engrossed with doing every thing in the old way, with "no time to study," is left out in the dark. We should often be tempted to ask our optimist friends if this was not one of the injustices of nature did we not know that we should be met with the reply, "It is written, man shall not live by bread alone." "My friend," said a large manufacturer the other day, "I am so much engrossed in *business* that I cannot stop to study whether I am a victim of bad laws, trade disorganisation, or of old fashion and faulty methods; I am only conscious that it is more than I can do to hold my own nowadays." Need we say we are certain that the conscious conviction will become more and more painfully apparent, until that esteemed gentleman changes his policy?

SLANDER v. EXTORTION.

A CASE recently tried at the Leeds County-court, and reported elsewhere in our columns, belongs to a class, instances of which appear in every number of this journal. A person makes a bargain and agrees to pay a certain sum for an article by instalments. The article is subsequently submitted to the judgment of a friend, or its value tested by recourse to the knight of the golden balls, with the result that someone says the article is only worth one-half or perhaps a quarter as much as has been paid for it, and in proof of the assertion offers to supply a duplicate at perhaps one-third of the price. Naturally the person considers that he has been "had," and under such circumstances instances are not unknown in which the purchaser has taken the law into his own hands, given the seller a thrashing, or hied to his establishment and perpetrated wilful damages to anything within reach. That many things sold at only a reasonable profit and a fair price are thus brought back everyone is aware. Not unfrequently, we regret to say, we have known rival tradesman undertake to supply a duplicate at cost, or even less than cost, just to make a customer dissatisfied. But these are not the cases that are brought into court. The law usually has to deal with cases of absolute false representation, which can sometimes be rendered into plain comprehensible English, as for example, in another case we report, where a Geneva watch was sold for an English lever, or where there is a remarkable discrepancy of two or three hundred per cent. between the prices charged and a subsequent estimate of value. In the Leeds case it is clear someone is decidedly in the wrong—either the man who estimates the trade value of a ring at £8, or only about a fifth of the price charged for it, or the man who charged the high figure. If the first is wrong, it is certain that he commits a grave injury of a defamatory nature, the ill effects of which no one can ever gauge. We have heard would-have-been customers revive calumnies wrongfully started two generations before; and we consider it a matter for serious consideration whether damages ought not to be obtainable under such circumstances.

On the other hand, of course, instances are only of too common occurrence where extortionate prices are charged, especially where deferred payments of any kind are made. We cannot help thinking that the public ought to have some kind of appeal to experts in such cases, and if they have been charged at an extortionate rate, or the articles misrepresented to them, property ought not to change hands even on payment either of a portion or the whole agreed price. Theoretically, in the latter case, it is not supposed to, but we fear that if this were universally enforced many bargains would be nullified.

EXPORT TRADE.

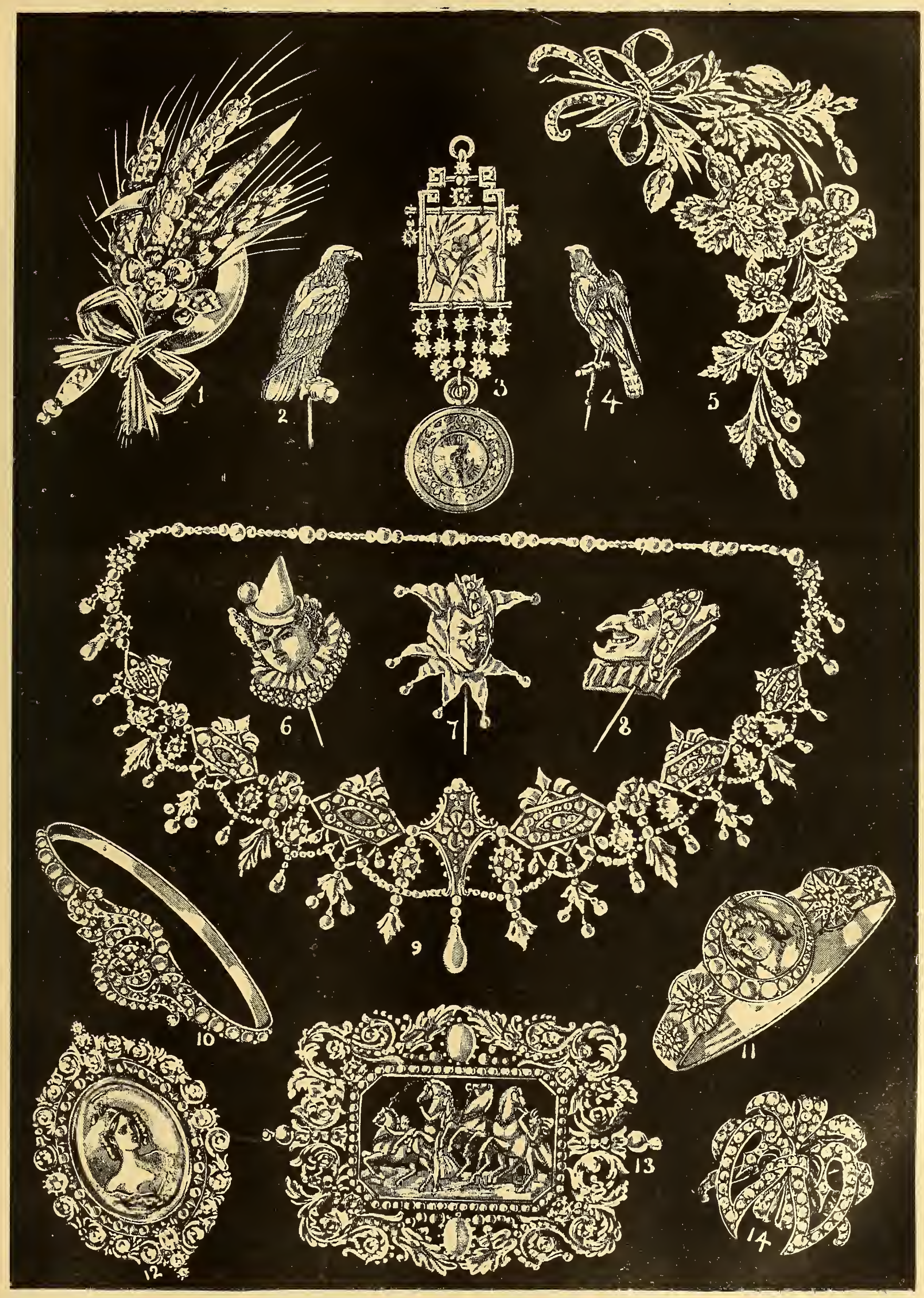
IT has usually been our custom to manufacture our own goods on our own lines, and then try and force them upon new markets. Whether this has been a correct policy or not we do not now stop to inquire; there are yet many open markets for our goods and there are many markets for goods we could supply. We fear the consular reports only find their way into the hands of a few, who reap a good harvest from them; when we get an ideal organisation at the Imperial Institute all this will be altered (?). In the meantime it is as well to watch the remarks of the various consuls and, if possible, derive some benefit from them. The French Licentiate of Commerce at Quezaltenango, Guatemala, says: "Fine gold watches are chiefly of Swiss or English origin. America excels in the manufacture of gold-plated watches, which consist of a copper case plated with gold. They have a ready sale, as, although similar in appearance to gold watches, they are much cheaper, and the cases retain their color for about twenty years. Germany has endeavored to imitate these goods by gilding the copper cases, but the people still prefer the American gold-plated watch." Why don't we go in for gold-cased watches?

The Belgian Consul-General at Shanghai wrote home that "clocks and watches are import articles which have a large future before them in China." It is well known that a few firms have for generations had a monopoly of the China trade, but the desire for these articles is greatly extending, and trade in them is greatly increasing. There are numerous intelligent Chinese who visit this country every year for the sole purpose of buying timekeepers.

The German official report from Oran, Algeria, states: "If this place were regularly visited by commercial travellers, they would obtain good results, especially if they came just after the harvest. At present we are visited by but few travellers." He, however, adds: "It should be remembered, when opening up business relations with Oran, that credit is in a very unsatisfactory condition, and that great caution should be displayed, as money can be more easily lost here than anywhere else. There are but few reliable agents to be found in this place." These pieces of news are perhaps even more useful than the other class. Still it is evident that there are yet other worlds to conquer, and there are still markets open for our wares if we only can find them out.

"The World's Richest Mine."—We have to return our thanks to our Antipodean subscribers for sending us a copy of *The Sydney Town and Country Journal*, which, under the above heading, gives an account of Mount Bischoff Tin Mine, Tasmania. We are pleased to get the additional views of this remarkable tin mine, which is probably one of the wonders of mining. We were already familiar with it, and specimens of its products, together with examples from several Tasmanian tin mines, are now before us. The tin deposits of Tasmania have a great future before them. The county where the chief mines are situated has been appropriately named Cornwall. In justification of the term used above, we might just say that this mine spent only about £6,000 of its subscribers' capital, and in twenty years has paid over a million and a quarter sterling in dividends, producing about 50,000 tons of the British metal. Work was rather difficult, though, for some time, but now the face of the working is clear, and it reveals an almost solid mountain of tin, one of nature's most remarkable productions. As one good turn deserves another, we may tell our Tasmanian friend that he will, if he searches, find much in this mine to interest him (or he could obtain them from the men if he educated them) in the shape of aopazes and tourmalines, also beautiful groups of crystals of fluor-spar, which, if in forms other than cubes, have a market value. We have seen £35 paid for a curious Cornish specimen. Crystals of tin are also valuable, and when of a nice, clear, light reddish brown make a pretty gem, any of which we should be pleased to purchase.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE
WATCHMAKER, JEWELER AND SILVERSMITH,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OUR SPECIAL PLATE.

No. 1. Sickle-spray. The barley should be in diamonds or pearls ; the flower in chrysoprase; the bow in transparent cherry-red enamel ; the sickle in bright gold, aluminum, or platinum, with pearl handle. Emeralds could be introduced into the straight leaves of the corn with good effect. It would also make up well in half-pearl work and enamel ; using pearls for the ears and handle only, and the rest enamel.

2. Carved gold. Golden-eagle pin.

3. Chatelaine or brooch watch, suitable either for black bronze and gold, or gold, diamonds, and enamel. In the former case the frame would be black bronze, with gold joints to the bamboo. The lower diamonds could also be replaced with a similar bamboo ornament to the top. The panel would be black, with raised variously colored gold flowers. In the latter case the frame would be bright gold and the panel cloisnonné enamel.

4. Carved gold hawk pin.

5. Spray of cornflowers and conventionalised may. The leaves and small flowers should be in diamonds, the buds in small diamonds and pearls. The cornflowers should be in sapphires or turquoises, and the tie in either diamonds or pearls. The spray should also be made in three, taking to pieces behind the first top flower, and again behind the tie. It thus forms three brooches or sprays. The whole forms a handsome tiara.

6, Pin, in either gold, gems, and enamel, or the face or entire article could be carved from moonstone.

7. Jester pin, in gold and enamel, or variously colored enamels. The tufts should be in pearls.

8. Pin, in labradorite or moonstone and gold.

9. Necklace, in gold, enamels, pearls, and colored gems. These articles are eminently suitable for light transparent gems, such as colored topazes, aquamarines, and peridots, while pearls and other waxey stones—such as turquoise or chrysoprase—form suitable contrasts with the vitreous enamels and transparent gems.

10. Bracelet, suitable for diamonds and pearls : or sapphires or other colored gems might be introduced.

11. The new portrait bracelet, in gold, pearls, and diamonds. Portrait bracelets have recently received a little impetus from Royalty.

12. Miniature brooch in diamonds and enamel. Miniature can either be some celebrity on ivory, or one of the new Esmail enamel portraits. The inner rings are in grey and transparent blue enamel ; the next member consists of bosses and diamonds of gold on dark blue or cherry red transparent enamel ground.

13. One of the new pierced moonstone cameos (the seizing of the horses of Juno), diamond and moonstone, or diamond and pearl border. The subject is also suitable for an opal cameo.

14. Double heart-and-tie brooch, in either diamonds and pearls, or the hearts could be of turquoises and the tie of diamonds.

Another "Onyx" Co.—Yet another company has been started in America to work the beautiful stalagmite calcite known in the trade as "Onyx." This time it is in Salt Lake City, and the name under which the new venture is about to try and flourish is the Mexican Onyx Co. It has a capital of 300,000dol. Huge companies like this continually starting and working must shortly put a large quantity of this material upon the markets

More Diamonds and Gold in British Guinea.—Many have been the rumors of gold and diamonds in these our possessions, but unfortunately they have generally proved unfounded. News from several quarters now comes to hand that gold in immense quantities has been found ; indeed, according to some accounts, British Guinea as a gold producing country will put California and Australia completely in the shade. The king of gems is also again appearing amongst them. Large rushes and immigrations are also reported, but we would caution our unemployed or adventurers to remember the nature of the climate before they set out to make a fortune so near the equator,

MARKETS.

Board of Trade Returns.

Exports.—The plated and gilt wares exported during July, 1893, amounted to £24,264, being £1,472 less than the corresponding month last year. This is a rather large difference, as the whole seven months of this year, compared with the corresponding period of last, is only a little over two thousand pounds.

Imports —Clocks and parts thereof imported during July, 1893, amounted to £26,860, which is £4,102 less than the corresponding month of last year.

Watches and parts thereof imported in July, 1893, amounted to £54,901, which is £840 less than the corresponding period of last year.

Diamonds.

London, August 28th.—The state of things in Hatton-garden during the month has been very bad. The low state of the trade of the country, the small buyings by the manufacturers, and the tightness of prices all contributed to make a very undesirable state of things. The news of the million pounds deal made a little stir and suggested the idea to many that there exists a great market for diamonds somewhere, but where that somewhere is I fear few have been able to find. The syndicate who bought up this immense quantity of material are very sanguine about being able to place it all in a very short time, and not have a stone left. But I have for a long time entertained an idea that a big crash must come, and I am all the more sorry to hear that this idea is gaining great ground in the Garden, where confidence in the American market is very much shaken. With the endless bank-breaking and the general bad state of trade in the States, the trade must suffer sooner or later. Already it has affected Wall-street, and any day I shall not be surprised to hear of serious failures—assuredly diamonds must come down.

Amsterdam, August 25th.—The market for polished diamonds is in a state of complete stagnation ; there is no animation whatever ! What few sales are effected are mostly at a loss. At the end of last year and the commencement of this, there was a better stir for America, which induced merchants to make extensive purchases, thinking the American trade was increasing, whereas it was only the stock that was required for the Chicago Exhibition. This having been satisfied, left the merchants with a glut of stock for which they at present find insufficient output. Let us hope that the great stocks now lying in the Exhibition, both of diamonds and manufactured articles, will find a sale; otherwise, should all these goods be thrown upon the market at the close of the Exhibition, it would simply be deluged.

Paris, August 24th.—There is but very little to say of our diamond market other than that there is almost nothing doing, and were it not for a few strangers that visit the city, affairs would be absolutely nil. The great Russian fair, Nishni Novogorod, which is going on at present, has hardly been felt by any increase in the Russian demands.

Silver.

With the unsettled state of things in America, and the determined activity displayed by the silver men, and the fact that until the Sherman Act is actually repealed, or at least very much modified, America will still continue to require silver ; there has been very little change in the price of the precious white metal, except that with demands not only from India and China, but even also from America, there has often been an upward tendency, indeed, during the first ten days of the month, it rose from 32$\frac{11}{16}$d. to 34$\frac{3}{4}$d.; a recession then set in amounting in all to five farthings ; since then there has been a gradual upward tendency, and on going to press is 34d.

Tin.

Tin has had exceptionally bad luck during the whole of the month. It is a very long time since we remember such a continuous fall all through the month to so great an extent; commencing at £85 5s., it went down almost every day, till on going to press it has reached £76 15s.

Copper.

The red metal, on the other hand, has remained fairly constant; the latter part of the month, however, it had fallen to £40 12s. 6d.

Spelter.

Spelter has been very constant, although lower at the end of the month, touching even money £17.

Mercury.

The mobile metal, although opening extremely low and remaining so for some time, at the end of the month had reached £6 17s. 6d.

Mother of Pearl.

At the auction held on August 15th and 16th there was a less extensive supply than at the last sales; the total amounting to 3,864 cases, 841 casks and barrels, 760 bags, against 5,105 cases, 480 casks, 426 bags. A generally depressed tone prevailed, owing somewhat to the absence of American buyers, and a larger proportion than is usual was bought in. Queensland and Torres Straits met a low demand, bold sizes showing a decline of 10s. to 15s., thin medium and defective being 5s. to 10s. lower. West Australian went off quietly, bold sizes declining 5s. to 10s.: thin medium and chicken obtained about last sales' rates. The large supplies of Bombay and Egyptian proved greatly in excess of the demand, and only a small part sold, and that at a reduction of 10s. to 15s. Manila partly sold at about former rates, but Macassar, Penang, and other kinds brought irregular prices. Black-edged Tahiti were all slow. Fiji and Banda steady.

Another Randt Record.—The gold fields of South Africa have again beaten their own record! In July their output was 126,169oz. which is two and a-quarter times as much as it was in 1892. Where will it end? It was considered that 100,000oz. would never be reached. Now we are talking of 150,000oz. as the goal.

The Indian Casket for the Duke of York.—The casket to contain the Bombay Municipal congratulatory address to H.R.H. the Duke of York on the occasion of his wedding with Princess May will be entirely hand-chased and take six months to complete. The work will be carried out by Messrs. Hamilton and Co., the well-known Calcutta jewelers.

Rather Hard on the god.—Recently some devotees subscribed their gold and family jewels to make a necklace for a Hindu god. This gorgeous ornament was religiously secreted inside a safe, which with two other iron protectors was shipped per steamship *Nadir* from Madras to Colombo. Here the Custom House authorities gave the safe such an out and inside examination that they discovered the secreted jewel, which they decline to allow the god to wear until someone pays duty for it.

Christopher Pinchbeck.—Our esteemed contemporary the *City Press* often gives little notices of the past history of our crafts, which have played an important *role* in the development of our great City. On the 16th ult., under the heading of "Another Notable London Clockmaker," it gives a lot of old extracts concerning this interesting genius. One extracted from *Applebee's Weekly Journal*, July, 1721, is in many ways interesting, not only in its associations with our hero, but as indicating the lines upon which the watch trade was then run: "Notice is hereby given to noblemen, gentlemen, and others, that Christopher Pinchbeck, inventor and maker of the famous astronomico-musical clocks, is removed from St. George's-court (pulled down in 1822 and is now occupied by Albion-place, Clerkenwell) to the sign of the astronomico-musical clock in Fleet-street, near the Leg Tavern. He maketh and selleth watches and all sorts of clocks." Then follows a list of the wonders his clocks can do. "And finally he mends watches and clocks in such sort that they will perform to an exactness which possibly, through a defect in finishing or other accident, they formerly could not do." His "wonders" were also exhibited at fairs and shows, although he was employed by various Courts upon very expensive articles. But the thing in connection with which Pinchbeck is best known to us is the metal of which the old pair-case watches in our young days could be seen, "which does so nearly resemble gold in color, smell, and ductility to any person whatsoever." Still Pinchbeck was undoubtedly a rare old genius, and his memory deserves a better place than has of latter days got to be associated with the term.

NOTES ABOUT TOWN.

(By Our London Correspondent.)

I was more than once agreeably surprised to hear during the month the welcome words, "I think things are looking up a bit." Undoubtedly everything, all over the world, is very bad just now; and to know that we are no worse off than other countries affords some satisfaction, grim though it may be. These cheering remarks were made by West End and City firms, and were supported by manufacturers, who report very good journeys. Still, I cannot help thinking that it applies more to those houses who have some speciality than to firms dealing in ordinary bread-and-cheese stuff.

Despite some advantages of over-hot and dry weather, undoubtedly an early and long summer does more for the jewelry trade than anything. All sorts of outdoor pleasures are indulged in, resulting in endless present-giving and matchmaking, which all bring grist to the jeweler's mill. These outdoor fashionable gatherings always cause a run on certain articles of jewelry. The watches are worn in a certain place and in a new style; buckles are to the front; or chatelains dangle after the manner decided by the leaders of fashion. Now that chrysoprase is the rage, and being made in articles which are not very expensive, it would have been thought most incongruous at Henley for a lady to expose a wrist not adorned by the gem of the hour.

Speaking of chrysoprase again reminds one of the quantities of material that are being sold for the genuine gem. Chrysoprase, it is true, is a member of the chalcedonic division of quartz, but it was always meant to apply to the lovely apple green translucent, rich surface-lustred variety, which is colored in nature's laboratory with a small quantity of nickel, and occurs in silisia. The yellow varieties which one sees are not chrysoprase, whether they be left in their natural color or backed with dark green sealing-wax. It is a libel on this lovely gem to place before the public, under the same name, things which do not possess the beauties of the gem, and which are inferior to it in every way.

Still both chrysoprase and turquoise maintain their hold on the supporters of fashion, and at present no rival has a place in the field, nor can it even be prophesied which of the gems will oust the present favorites. Sometimes one thinks amethysts might do so. What a pedigree could back up the purple gem! It was one of the twelve stones selected by the Rabbinical onomancers, the relics of which are found in the twelve stones of the high priest; its claim to a place amongst these mystic twelve being supported by the Authorised Vulgate and Greek Versions. By both Greeks and Romans it was also held in great veneration, whilst it has been claimed that in the middle of the seventeenth century a fine amethyst was considered equal in value to a diamond. When last fashionable it was worth thirty shillings a carat in trade. The Duchess of Newcastle has a magnificent tiara of amethysts that cost five figures. Her father, Mr. Beresford-Hope, and many other gem collectors of his day had some magnificent amethysts. Queen Victoria and several other sovereigns are likewise very fond of the purple gem.

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PEARLS & HALF PEARLS
TURQUOISE,
SAPPHIRES,
EMERALDS,
RUBIES,
OPALS,
&c.,
&c.,
&c.

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PRECIOUS STONES
RE-CUT AND CUT TO MATCH.

SPECIMEN GEMS PURCHASED.

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SILVER AND PLATED WARE
EQUAL TO NEW ON SHORTEST NOTICE.
REPAIRS:—SPECIAL ATTENTION.

Prices will be found the Lowest for Quality & Style.
DESIGNS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL ON PRESENTATION OF BUSINESS CARD.

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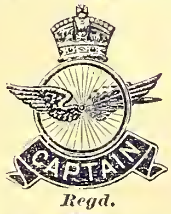

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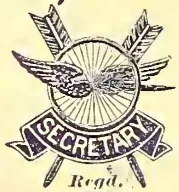

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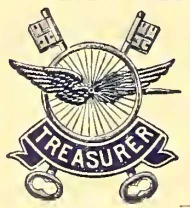

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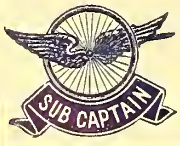

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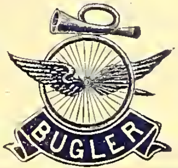

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Rings, &c., for Sealing.

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(Twenty-one Years with Mr. J. Moore),
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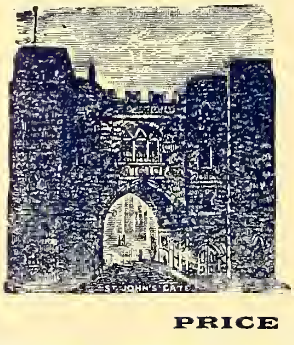

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Re-plating Spoons, Forks, Tea and Coffee Services, Salvers, Dishes and Covers, Cruet Stands, &c., &c.

What a change has come over the shape of clarets, liqueur glasses, and all allied articles! I am a little proud to say that that fashion, which includes some of the most graceful forms that have ever been produced in the transparent metal, originated with the man of gold and silver, especially with the incoming of the now overwhelmingly fashionable reeded glasses. At one time there was a rage for things of old Dutch proportions where the height was less than the width; then came the Renaissance and Classic proportions, where the proportions of the height to the width would be possibly three to one. Now, however, a claret jug two feet high and small enough to almost span round with one hand, is by no means rare to see. Eighteen inches high and two and a-half in diameter, with the bottom swollen quickly out during the last three inches to six inches in diameter, is quite common. It may be fashionable, and it may be artistic, but if it is I fear I have ill-spent a quarter of a century of study.

But all these articles are not of these broom-stick proportions. Some of the more moderate ones are very graceful and handsome, and include glasses to match. A pair of liqueurs are now cased up in a hundred different ways with six or twelve delicate, though extremely lanky, little glasses, and are having quite a good run. Nor are these new liqueur glasses confined to the transparent metal, sometimes veritable silver thimbles, about one and a-half inches deep, are mounted on a delicate stem, two inches long, for "just a thimbleful." When these things are cased up, usually a little square waiter completes the set.

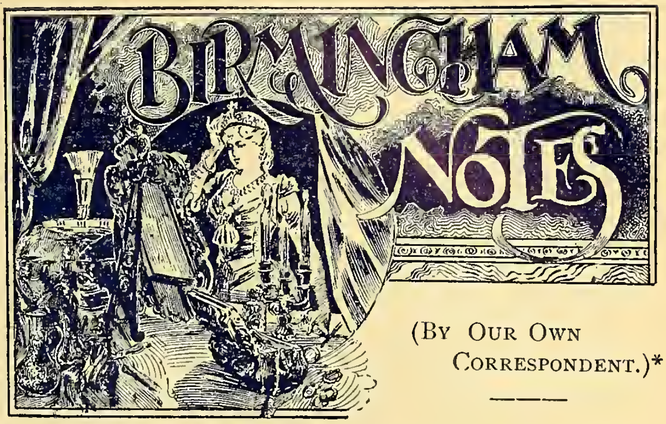
In other instances the waiter is about eighteen inches long, by only about four inches wide, and made with handles at the "square" ends like a butler's tray. This, however, is not the only use for these oblong trays, they are all the rage for afternoon tea, or café noir; generally the tea set and cups are the same pattern—as plain as can possibly be, flat receding sides, compared with which the usual Queen Ann patterns are quite gorgeous.

In connection with the last-named objects, I am pleased to see a revival of the beautiful Coalport china: delicate gold Arabesques, often of the lightest style of Louis XVI., on a white ground. In these the cups drop tightly into open scroll-work silver stands, which rise about half-way up the cup, and form very handsome objects indeed. Sometimes the silver is frosted, at others burnished, while in yet others the richness is enhanced by an overlay of the yellow standard metal, or parcel gilt.

As might naturally be expected, beautiful and truly artistic silver-mounted ware does not stop here: it has been extended to numerous articles; amongst which perhaps the most prominently stand articles for the toilet. Beautiful square and round toilet bottles are fitted into these bases, and gold-traced white china trays rest in a cradle of silver.

I also noticed a curious thing in connection with single scents, and that is, they are made with locks and keys to the lids. The scent tantalus has long been known, but was an odd article. Now, however, the single scent bottles *en suite* with the rest of the toilet requisities can be put under lock and key.

There has been shown during the last month or two an exceptionally large number of trophies, shields, and prizes all through the trade, much more so than is usually the case. Whether it is that the trade are appreciating the attention which these things always command when exhibited or not I cannot say, but probably it is so, as they always get more or less of a crowd round them, and no doubt are excellent advertisements.



(By Our Own Correspondent.)*

The record of trade for August has always been somewhat depressing. Even in the "good times" business during the summer months was very much below par, and of late years it has got very much worse. Two causes contribute to produce this stagnation. First there is the Bank Holiday, which has gradually developed into a week's holiday for most of the manufacturers, so far as production goes; and, secondly, there is the increasing popularity of August as a holiday month. At the present time the staffs of the various firms are very short-handed from this cause, and, of course, those on duty have to work hard to supply the place of the absent ones. One feature of our August business has always been an overhauling of the factors' stocks during the Bank Holiday week, which resulted in numerous purchases to fill up for the next campaign. This year, however, little or nothing has been done, and the majority of the factors have gone off again without a single purchase of any consequence. To many manufacturers this has been a keen dissappointment, and in combination with the general depression will make the returns of most below the average.

Colonial orders, which used to be pretty plentiful at this time, are now mostly conspicuous by their absence, and what few there are have dwindled to an almost irreducible minimum. It is certainly not overstating the case to say that lines from these sources are about one-quarter of what they were formerly.

The extreme tightness of money, and the consequent difficulty of making both ends meet, is severely taxing the resources of more than one firm at the present time, and will, I fear, result very badly for some. Those who tide over the current quarter will still find themselves much embarrassed, as the small sales now being made will of course mean a decrease in the financial returns next quarter.

The silver crisis still agitates the minds of many of our local firms, and I hear of some who lost heavily by the rapid decline in price. Latterly, however, the tendency has been upward, and there seems a chance of three shillings an ounce being reached before the close of the month. No doubt the drop frightened buyers in many cases, but it has been wisely ignored by the principal makers, who have gone on at the old rates. This, indeed, is only fair to themselves, since they bought their material at the prices which obtained before the panic, and the rebound of price confirms their wisdom. Whether many makers stocked silver at the lowest ebb I haven't heard, but I should say it would have been good policy to do so, since it seems unlikely that it will go so low again. Of course there is the question as to the repeal of the Sherman Act and its effect on prices, but it seems reasonable to suppose that the American Government will unload its 170,000,000 ounces at a fixed maximum number of ounces per month, and with a minimum price per ounce; otherwise their already heavy loss may be greatly increased. From the point of view of cheapness the manufacturer need fear nothing, since the lower the ultimate price the greater will be the demand, and the use of silver will also be extended to the manufacture of articles which are at present untouched. Just at present, however, it is clearly to the interest of makers to work from hand to mouth and carry as little stock as possible, so that though they may not benefit by the probable rise yet neither will they lose much in the case of a permanent heavy fall.

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

Some of our local firms appear to be still growing in spite of general depression. Messrs. I. S. Greenberg and Co., whose Vyse-street premises have long been inconveniently crowded, have acquired as an additional base of operations the block at the corner of Great Hampton-street and Hall-street, which was formerly occupied by the Joint Stock Bank. I understand that it is their intention to fit them up as show and sale rooms, and for this purpose they are really admirably adapted, being very lofty and well lighted.

Messrs. G. H. Johnstone and Co., of Northampton-street, who are well-known as stud and link manufacturers, are also about to extend their warehouse and shops, and have already secured the adjacent premises for this purpose. When the alterations are complete they will have one of the largest and best equipped factories in the City at their disposal and will doubtless reap the benefit in a large extension of their business operations.

Messrs. Adie and Lovekin, Limited, have found their capital largely in excess of their needs, and in accordance with a resolution of the shareholders a petition for its reduction by one-sixth has been submitted to the Court. Mr. Milliar, Q.C., appeared on behalf of the company, and, as the application was unopposed, Mr. Justice Wright made the order required. A transaction of this kind is a very practical indication of the effect produced by the long depression on most jewelry firms.

One or two local manufacturers are endeavoring to create a demand for niello work, but with what success I cannot say. Niello has long been a feature in the jewelers' windows on the Continent, and I see no reason why a good market should not be found for it in this country. If properly made, it is practically indestructible, and many charming artistic effects can be obtained with it. It will, however, only appeal to people of the most refined tastes, as it is quite unsuitable for the production of the brilliant combinations obtainable with set work. Still it is a step in the right direction, and I hope to see it develop, if not into fashion, at least into a regular stock article. Every intelligent effort to enlarge the scope of production should command our hearty sympathy.

Considerable sympathy is felt locally for Messrs. Platnauer Bros., who, as noted last month, have been compelled to suspend payment. The creditors have adopted an offer of 20s. in the £, payable in nine instalments at intervals of four months. Messrs. Platnauer will continue to manage the business under the advice of a committee of inspection, on which Birmingham creditors are strongly represented by Messrs. W. Pearce and Pendleton. A novel feature in the scheme is that the instalments are arranged so that each succeeding payment is smaller than the last, so that the amount to be met becomes lighter in every way. I wish Messrs. Platnauer complete success in the task they have to perform, and feel sure the trade will give them its heartiest co-operation.

Mr. Frank Payton, of Frederick-street, has suspended payment for the second time. The liabilities are not nearly so heavy as on the former occasion, but in the present depressed state of trade every loss, however small, is keenly felt and resented in proportion.

The alteration at Messrs. S. Blanckensee and Son, Limited, are nearly completed, and are a decided improvement. One important feature is the introduction of the electric light, and the general result is very satisfactory. As soon as the Electric Supply Company tap the jewelers' district, which I understand will be their next move, I expect to see a great many firms adopt the new light. It is clean, healthy, and much superior to gas for bench use. Concentrated by a glass or shaded with tissue paper, it affords a clear, mellow, white light which is far easier to work by than gas, and at the same time cool and pleasant.

In my June letter, by the way, it was inadvertently stated that Messrs. Blanckensee and Son had declared "a first dividend of 5 per cent." I regret that the word "first" accidentally crept into the note, the fact being that the company have not only paid several dividends in previous years, but the rate of dividend in 888 was identical with the one last declared.

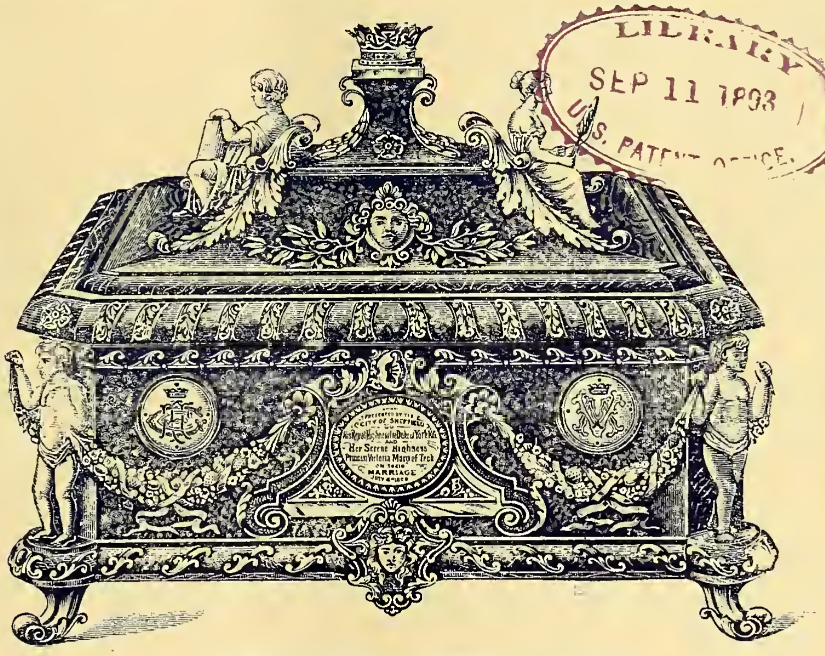
I hope all jewelers who have young people in their employ will note that the various technical and art classes of this city are now commencing their sessions. The Municipal Technical School which opens on September 4th has specially arranged courses for students employed in the electro-plate, gold and silversmiths, and electro-plating and gilding trades. These courses include theoretical instruction in the chemistry, mathematics, and metallurgy of the various branches; and in the practical classes, the treatment of the ore, alloying, melting, assaying, etc., are efficiently taught. The classes in practical electro-metallurgy demonstrate the various processes of gilding and plating, and the methods of treating solutions of different kinds. The Jewelers' Technical School and Art School, in Vittoria-street, re-open on September 11th with a good bill of intellectual fare, and the trade association are looking for improved results from the work to be done.

This subject of the insurance of parcels is one of great importance to the jewelry trade, and some thought is required to decide which is the best form in which to insure. The various companies which issue general policies of insurance offer decided inducements as to ease and cheapness, and lately their adoption has greatly increased among the jewelers of Birmingham. But there is one matter which they do not touch, and which seems to be one of the most essential points—they do not, and they cannot, insure the safe delivery of the parcel. And, as a rule, is not the prompt and safe delivery of the parcel of far greater importance than to be sure of its value if stolen? Even where the actual value of the goods is ultimately recovered, will that compensate for the trouble and annoyance caused to a good customer? While in a case of robbery, the incidental expenses of the tracing and prosecution of the thief is a serious item, the loss of time to a busy man being worse almost than the loss of money. The remedy seems to be to insure with the railway companies, as they then take special care that the insured parcels are not stolen, and thus the chief aim of the insurance is effected. I am told that their care of parcels insured for good amounts is extreme—in fact, that is sufficiently evidenced by the results, as we hardly ever hear of such a parcel being lost or stolen. It is said that a special messenger accompanies to its destination every parcel insured for £300 or over. I am not, however, able to vouch for the reliability of this statement.

SHEFFIELD
NOTES

(By Our Own Correspondent.)*

The celebration of the fiftieth birthday of Mr. Herbert Hutton, head of the firm of William Hutton and Sons, recalls some interesting reminiscences connected with the history of the firm. Mr. Hutton was entertained to dinner in the Artillery Drill Hall by his workpeople, to the number of six or seven hundred, who also testified to their appreciation of him as an employer by the presentation of a silver statuette. This is a real work of art, and represents Mr. Hutton on horseback as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Artillery Volunteers. It was executed from first to last in the firm's own works, and by their own workmen, from the model of the great artist, Mr. Swaffield Brown. The employe who made the presentation stated that when he first worked for the firm fifty-four years ago the staff numbered just a dozen all told, and four small rooms sufficed to accommodate all the departments. The rise and progress of the business as told at the meeting constitutes one of the numerous romantic histories in connection with the Sheffield silver trade. The contrast between the four dingy rooms in South-street fifty-four years ago and the magnificent factory of to-day, with its army of workpeople and splendid show-rooms, is certainly most striking.



Sheffield's Royal Wedding Casket.

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The amount of energy expended in successfully carrying on a business of this character is stupendous, and gives some amount of plausibility to the theory of Mr. Chas. Belk, who once stated that a man engaged in the silver-plating trade had one of three fates in store for him. He either went into a lunatic asylum, or gave way to drink, or turned bald-headed. Mr. Hutton considers himself lucky in only having suffered the least of these three evils. In the course of his speech in reply to the presentation, he gives us just a glimpse behind the scenes when he spoke of the building of the works in West-street on the expiry of the High-street lease as having "very nearly ruined him." It shows the splendid material of which our manufacturing princes are made, that such risks are encountered only to be successfully overcome.

A sure sign that the year is on the wane is the holding of the meeting to elect the Master Cutler and to re-constitute the Cutlers' Company for the ensuing year. The Master Cutler (Mr. J. F. Atkinson) being absent, at Chicago, the chair was taken by the ex-Master Cutler (Mr. Robt. Belfitt). Mr. George Howsen, of the firm of Harrison Bros. and Howsen, Norfolk-street, was elected Master Cutler, and Mr. Chas. Henry Bingham advanced from the junior to the senior wardenship; Mr. Henry Herbert Andrew was elected junior warden. The searchers and assistant searchers were then appointed. The only new member of the company is Mr. William Jessop, who takes the place of Mr. John Marshall, resigned. The installation of Mr. Geo. Howsen as Master Cutler will take place on the first Thursday in September. This year the Cutlers' Feast will not be held on the same day, but will come off later on, probably on October 26th, or November 2nd.

The Sheffield present to the Duke and Duchess of York on the occasion of their marriage is now complete in all its parts, and has been exhibited in the Cutlers' Hall before being sent on to its destination. As I stated last month, the work has been divided among several firms who were considered by the committee fairly representative of the capacity of the town for turning out this class of work. The public are now in a position to judge as to the correctness of this view, and the universal verdict is in favor of the judgment exercised by the committee in making their choice. Moreover, the principle of making the present illustrative of the staple trades of the town is felt to be a sound one, and the practical outcome is a series of articles which reflect infinite credit on the artistic taste and skill of our artisans.

By the courtesy of Mr. Ridge I was afforded the opportunity of inspecting that portion of the present manufactured by Messrs. John Round and Son in the company's own show-room previous to its removal to the Cutlers' Hall. That it is worthy of the reputation of the town goes without saying to all who are acquainted with the kind of work turned out by this prominent firm. It consists of a beautiful set in silver, parcel gilt, comprising twelve fruit spoons, two sugar sifters, two cream ladles, six pairs of nut crackers, six nut picks, and two grape scissors, all of the Apostle pattern and with the coronet and the Duchess's badge—the York rose—engraved on each article. The casket which contains this set is in itself a most beautiful piece of art workmanship. Made of pollard oak, grown in the Fitzwilliam Woods, in the neighborhood of the town, it has an appearance of substantiality appropriate to what will doubtless become an heirloom in the family of its recipients.

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the views of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

In shape it is an oblong square with the corners cut off about two inches, the dimensions being nineteen and a-half long by seventeen and a-half inches in breadth and about fifteen inches in height. It is mounted with a profusion of silver ornamentation of a Renaissance character, recalling the times when the silversmith was an artist instead of a workman. At each corner stands a beautifully modelled cupid six inches in height. The cupids are connected with each other by festoons of fruit and flowers, and these are also linked to handsome silver shields placed in the centre of each side of the casket. The cupids stand on semi-circular bases, which in turn are supported by cornucopia-shaped feet, while below the shields are bacchanalian masks. The body of the casket is further enriched with two ornamental bands. Carved flutes in oak are carried round the edge of the cover, between each being a scroll leaf in silver, and at each corner is the York rose. Finely modelled figures of Industry and the Fine Arts recline on either side of the cover, which is further decorated with scroll and leaf work leading from each corner to the top. On three of the shields which appear on the sides of the casket are representations of the Town Hall, the Parish Church, and the Mappin Art Gallery, the fourth shield containing the inscription. On either side of the centre shield are circular shields, one bearing the monogram of the Duke, the other that of the Duchess. The whole design is full of meaning, and it is its freedom from conventionality which constitutes it rather a work of art than a piece of workmanship.

Another commission connected with Royalty which has lately been entrusted to Messrs. Round and Son, and executed with all the chasteness of design and excellence of workmanship associated with that firm's handiwork, is the beautiful silver trowel to be presented to Her Majesty the Queen when she lays the foundation-stone of the new church of Crathie. The outline of the silver blade is exceedingly beautiful, and the ornamental engraving upon it both in point of design and execution not to be surpassed. The shapely handle, of the finest ivory, is surmounted by a Royal crown, and the letters "V.R." and "V." are carved on the end.

In the ordinary way of trade Messrs. Round and Sons have just produced a new thing in spoons which is likely to go. It has been called the Duke of York spoon. The handle finishes off at the top with a most artistic combination of the rose, thistle, and shamrock, upon which rests a ducal coronet. Every one acquainted with Scotch jewelry work knows how readily the thistle lends itself to artistic treatment, but combinations of the three national emblems are not uniformly so successful. This new pattern of Round and Sons, however, is an exception to this rule of comparative failure, and is really a beautiful piece of work.

The other parts of the Royal presents, excellent as they are, do not admit of anything like an extended notice. The patterns of all of them are such as may be seen in any silversmith's or cutlery showroom. Their chief peculiarity is the excellence of their workmanship and the richness of the materials of which they are made. The fish-eaters of Messrs. Walker and Hall, for example, are covered with a wealth of engraving executed in the very highest style of the art. The same may be said of the dessert goods of Messrs. Hutton and Sons, and the spoons and forks of Messrs. Dixon and Sons. Messrs. Martin and Hall and Dixon and Sons give an equally good account of themselves in the general show. The cutlery firms, too, show to advantage. The ivory and pearl handles are such as one does not come across very often. The handles are plain, with the exception of the Rose of York and the coronet engraved upon them. This, however, is executed with a minuteness and fineness of detail which cannot be sufficiently admired. The steel blades and prongs are without a flaw.

DIAMOND FIELD NOTES

(By Our Own Correspondent.)

Kimberley, August 1st, 1893.

When I last wrote you I was not in full possession of the history of the discovery of the giant diamond, since known as the Jagersfontein Excelsior. I was, however, in hopes of seeing it soon enough, but was disappointed. It has made a great stir out here, and that from many reasons; one was the way it was found, which was as follows:—A Kaffir was talking to his overseer just after some blasting had been done in the compound—not down in the mine—when observing something shine he placed his foot over it till the "boss" had gone on. He then picked up the treasure and conveyed it direct to the manager. For this action he was rewarded with £150, a horse, bridle, and saddle, with which he returned to his native land as powerful (in purse) as a chief. This was on the evening of June 30th, six hours within the expiration of the agreement of the company to sell to Messrs. Breitmyer all stones found at a little over £2 a carat. The company will, however, receive half the amount the stone realises above £10,000. Had the stone been found only six hours later the new syndicate would have shared equally with the company, which is the fact to which I referred last month.

If my memory serves me rightly, the Jagersfontein had previously produced the largest diamond found in 1873, which turned the scale at 583 carats, and again in 1881, which weighed 500 carats; but the latter, owing to irregularity of crystalization all through its development, resulted in a very imperfect mass, not worthy of being classed amongst the great diamonds of the world. Dutoit's pan also furnished a lump of boast of 600 carats weight. But in 1885 the latter mine produced two good gems of 404 and 352 carats respectively.

The Jagersfontein Excelsior, however, stands from its waist upward above all its fellows; it is of blue white color, and weighs 971¾ carats. It has not the excellent outline often assumed by the diamond, partaking more the shape of a somewhat laterally flattened cone standing upon an oval base, which measures about two inches by one and a quarter. The length or height is much more, approaching three inches. There is a small black spot in it, which will cut out, but will reduce the stone somewhat; otherwise it would make a very large stone in which the proportions of the depth to the width would stand in the same ratio as in the Koh-i-nur, with but very little waste, while the ratio of the length to the width would be greater. It would thus cut to a beautiful oval stone. But ovals are not now considered the best form in which to cut an isotropic gem, nor, indeed, could they be, as anyone with the slightest idea of mathematics is well aware. To get the full beauty of this stone it will have to be cut to very great waste (considerably over two-thirds) or else it will have to be made into two, by the process of oblique sawing.

While speaking of the Jagersfontein, I might remark that last month they found 11,870 carats of diamonds, which they sold for £27,114, of course the price realised by the Excelsior will be shown later.

The N.E. Bultfontein last month washed 91,000 loads which yielded 8,200 carats, they are about to increase their 6 per cent. debenture capital.

Turning to the De Beers great combine, all things have not been so roseate lately as an outsider might think. Since the sell out of three months ago diamonds have been accumulating immensely, and the bad state of trade both in Europe and America indicated a possibility that the gems might seriously decline in price, while the company, on the other hand, were legally bound not to sell for less than the last price obtained. However, all is over again now for a while, and a syndicate of Messrs. Barnarto, Wernher, Beit, and Co. have recently brought out all diamonds in hand, which amount to practically a million sterling! This is the greatest deal in diamonds on record. The previous record was five years ago when Messrs. Barnarto Bros. bought 220,000 carats for £247,000, which was known as Barney's bucketful.

Another item of considerable interest to the De Beer's is that they have been made to realise that they are subject to the laws of the country in which their property is situate. Now, it so happened that one of the mines they bought for the purpose of closing down is just inside Orange Free State, and a man named Cowie, who was a leader in the Wesselton pegging, has headed a party of 400 men and gone over to the mine, which is known as the Speculative, and not only pegged out, but commenced work in a thoroughly organised manner, applying to the O.F.S. for protection, which by law they are bound to give if the De Beers refuse to work the mine themselves. The company has appealed to the Orange Free State High Court, and the trial comes off to-day.

Another magnificent big stone has just been found in the river diggings at Hartz's Kopje, near Hebron. It is said to be of perfect shape and good color—indeed the finest river stone yet found, and this is saying a great deal. Its weight is 271½ carats, and its discovery well illustrates the caprices of fortune in diamond seeking. The previous owner of the claim had deserted it, as he could not keep body and soul together over it, when the new-comer, Beaumont, looking about the claim, picked up a pebble from amongst the rest of the gravel, which had been thrown away by the previous owner, all covered with mud, from the washings. It was a 271½ carat diamond, for which I understand he has accepted £20,000!

Rensburg, who, it may be remembered, discovered Dreikopjes, has found another diamond mine. This one is to the west of Winburg-road Station. The old company, I believe, are also taking over the new mine A 4½ carat stone has been found at Potchefstroom, and diamonds still keep coming in from Klerksdorp, so that the area of the diamond bearing strata is yet extending; but the most revolutionary fact comes from De Aar, 300 miles nearer the coast than Kimberley. There (Bain, the Government geologist, declares) is a veritable diamond mine near the railway at Vetlaagte, five miles from De Aar. A shaft has been sunk 95ft., blue reached, washed, and produced diamonds!

In closing, I might remark, we have also just found the much desired alluvial gold over extensive areas, and rich silver lead in great quantities. Shippers, keep your eye on South Africa; it is the cupboard of nature's treasures, and will before long be one of the best manufacture markets in the world.

Notice to Visitors of the World's Fair.—We wish to call the attention of any member of the trade intending to visit the great World's Fair to the fact that the Jewelers' Association have their headquarters in the Columbus Memorial Building, on the south-east corner of Washington and State-streets. Here a welcome is offered to all the English trade, every information given (we believe) gratis, and hotel accommodation can be had at prices altogether less and better than through any other means. All that is necessary is to present your card and mention the WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, SILVERSMITH, AND OPTICIAN. The Editor deeply regrets that his health has not permitted him to accept their offered kindness, as well as that of some of the officers of the Exhibition.

Transatlantic Jottings.

For several months my usual Transatlantic Jottings have had to give place to the notes of your special World's Fair correspondent. I am not altogether sorry, as during that time things have been by no means rosy. In many quarters there has not been such an absolute stagnation of business since the days of the Civil War. Firms have been failing one after the other, and latterly the banks have been competing with them in forced liquidation. Unfortunately, in silver countries the latter have come out the most numerous.

That marvellous prosperity which has favored our great watch manufacturing companies has at last given way, as indeed it could only expect to, in the natural order of things; for, whatever their success, it was the outcome of national affluence, and it is only in the nature of things that they should suffer when business of every description is at so phenomenally low an ebb. A notice has been placed up at the Elgin National Watch Co.'s factories, informing the employés that there will be a reduction of the factory force equal at least to 50 per cent., and all hands are called upon to try to get other appointments. A similar cut down has been made by the American Waltham Co. The shut-down vacation was further extended, and it was announced that when the factory was reopened only about half the number of hands might expect to be required—at least, at present. They point out that they are by no means short of funds, but that, owing to the great fall off in orders, it would not be wise to continue making movements by the thousands a day; and that until trade shows considerable improvement they do not intend to maintain their former output.

The New York Standard Watch Company, on the other hand, after laying off for six weeks commenced working only three days a week; but in a few days shut down again, posting up the following notice: "There is no safe way to conduct this factory as times are now." The United States Company, however, started up with full force, but at a reduction of 15 per cent. in the wages, promising the men that as soon as things are better and the Company can afford it, wages shall go back again to the old prices. The reduction holds good all through the factory, workmen and foremen, piece-workers and week-workers.

So much for the state of things in the watch trade, which being carried on in more concentrated centres is more obvious. In the jewelry line, on the other hand, the trade is more distributed, but the stagnation is none the less. Everyone is calling out fearfully. In Attlebro', indeed, the jewelers one and all nearly agreed to close till things were better, as they found trade absolutely at a standstill, with no orders coming in.

The Waltham Watch Tool Company recently had their annual meeting, and although Mr. Secretary spoke in terms of the highest satisfaction of the trade being done, 5½ per cent. upon capital is not much to earn after twelve months' working and trading, nor is 3 per cent., the amount of dividend declared, any great haul for the stock holders.

Notwithstanding the bad state of things in general, there are always members of the human family possessed of the faculty, or state of being, or whatever it is, without which, it is said, the heart would break; and here and there we hear of issues of new capital, or the launching forth of new enterprises. The Trenton Company report that they could do more business with more capital, and have accordingly issued new bonds for 100,000dol. on mortgage, a course also pursued by several other firms. At Berwick, Maine, a new clock company has been incorporated under the name of the Century, with 800,000dol. capital. The Watertown Watch Factory is nearing completion, and the Syracuse Silver Metal Company comes into existence with 150,000dol.

The club system has at last received a fatal blow, unless the High Court, to which appeal has been made, is able to eradicate the effects of the blow which has recently been delivered by a Springfield judge, who fined the jeweler club runner, his clerk, and several members of the club, and declared watch clubs illegal.

The question of carats is now occupying the minds of not only the individual members of the trade but the associations also, and I often think, when I read of Englishmen finding fault with the Government guarantee, how I should like to transport them over here for three months. They would then learn to appreciate the value of the Hall Mark. Recently another firm have had to pay very dearly for marking ten carat goods fourteen carat. It only shows that so long as the marking of the quality is left to manufacturers, unprincipled rascals will always be found who are ready to take any mean advantage of a defective system.

With reference to the work of the associations over here I should like to point out to your English trade how much they lose by not having kindred institutions. Apart from the good done all the year round, the Annual Convention of the National Association is gradually developing along lines, in relation to our trade, as are adopted by the British Association in regard to the Advancement of Science. Amongst the various items connected with the convention of the Ohio Retail Watchmakers' and Jewelers' Association was a report of the assay committee, which gave the result, to the members only, of assays made of the gold filled watch cases of leading manufacturers. Dr. Julius King gave a lot of valuable information on optics; Herman Rencke, an expert metallurgist, also revealed some new and wonderful processes. Other subjects of supreme interest were also brought forward.

An enterprising New Yorker, who evidently doesn't believe in the existence of bitterness between the States and the Old Country, has patented a silver flatware service, and named it the "Sandringham." The spoons and forks have a broader handle than in many patterns, and one that is very easily held in the hand; this has a beaded edge, and is surmounted by the Prince of Wales's coronet, from the centre of which rise his well-known three feathers, separated by a row of beads. It is certainly a most artistic production, and of quite Royal appearance.

With reference to the World's Fair, although you have had three notices, I might remark that if you had three thousand of the same length, there would still be left much of supreme interest to the horological and jewelry crafts. The exhibit of Tiffany and Co. alone is sufficient for a volume; never has there been connected with our trades a more enterprising and deserving firm than this. I know a great deal of the London West End firms, but I venture to say that all of them combined would never have produced such a marvellous exhibit as this! Indeed, I doubt—and I believe, Mr. Editor, you will share the opinion—whether anyone else in the world could have got such a complete collection together as that indefatigable expert George F. Kunz. I called on him the other day, and he was busy preparing a catalogue of the thousands of specimens under his charge, and I am sure when published that volume will be a revelation not only to the outside world, but to jewelers also.

Another unique exhibit is that of Messrs. Baume and Co., of London and Geneva. In this the public are treated to a sight of the tourbillon chronometer which recently broke the Kew record with the markage of 91·9. The extraordinary and remarkable performance of this marvel of mechanism, in all its positions, and under varying circumstances, has been published far and wide by the American Press. The same firm also are attracting great attention with their other record watches. Altogether this is probably one of the finest collections of high-class complicated work brought together.

A CHAT WITH MR. H. A. WARWOOD,

LATE MASTER AND INSTRUCTOR AT THE BIRMINGHAM JEWELERS' TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

Mr. H. A. Warwood is a notable representative of a class in Birmingham, whom I am impelled to call a class from unwillingness to admit even in my own mind that it is otherwise than a substantial and fairly numerous body. Yet one would need to search closely and long in the jewelry quarter of the Midland metropolis, or out of it, to find another who occupies a precisely similar position to Mr. Warwood's. At present it must, I fear, sorrowfully be admitted that he stands alone, or almost alone; and he has committed himself to a crusade which ought to yield him a harvest of honor and in time of golden grain; but at which those who are watching his experiment with admiring and sometimes envious eyes, and who know how great is the force of ignorance and prejudice with which he has to contend, look with some doubt as to the outcome.

Mr. Warwood is at once a craftsman, an artist, a teacher, and a manufacturer; and he is endeavoring to produce honest work, and true work, and beautiful work, and none other, to induce others to do the same, and to make headway in his calling against the competition of what is shoddy, false, and unlovely, and all that is summed up in the expression "a cheap commercial article." The task is one truly heroic; but I believe he will succeed.

I had a pleasant chat with him a few days since in the office adjoining his workshop in Tenby-street North, and asked him how he came to enter upon his present mission.

"I could hardly do otherwise," he said, "with the training I got. I was fortunate in beginning as a boy in the workshop under a man who did much more than teach me to use my hands. He was one of those rare men, whom we may come across still here and there, but who have to be sought out—silent, unassuming, almost shrinking, who do their work for the work's sake, love it, live for it, put into it all they are capable of, and with no eye to any other reward than their own satisfaction over work well and truly done. This man endeavored to infuse the same spirit into those who came within his range."

"And succeeded with you?"

"I would not say that; but undoubtedly I have profited much by his guidance and example, and I am happy to feel that his influence has not been altogether lost. Then I was further fortunate in being for so long a time with Messrs. T. and J. Bragg, and whilst there I was engaged upon high-class work congenial to my tastes. I also owe something to the influence of Mr. Tonks, receiving much encouragement from him from time to time."

"And you have endeavoured to inspire with the same feeling those with whom you have come in contact?"

"To the best of my ability, yes. Teaching is the work I love best; and it is in the young that my chief hopes are placed. As you know, I spent two years as master in the Technical School. I feel assured that my labors there have not been without effect. On the wall here you see an address from my pupils, and a letter of most kindly appreciation from Councillor Green, in the name of the committee, which I very much value. It was a painful wrench when I found myself obliged to relinquish my duties at the school. I have been engaged in business on my own account for about eighteen months, and am making head-way, but progress is very slow, as, to carry out my ideas, not only has the work to be produced, but the workers have, as it were, to be produced also. It is almost hopeless to attempt reform with workmen too old, or thinking themselves too old, to learn, whose ideas are chained to one narrow groove, and who operate persistently by the same rule of thumb. And, as at the school, I find I must begin with the boys. I am proud of my boys."

"You may indeed be, if these are examples of their handicraft."

"Yes; these drawings are from the pencil of a lad not yet fifteen, and these others of one still younger. They are full of imperfection, as you see, but show great promise. I keep them at it, and make them study and imitate the great masters of design, until correct form is ingrained in their minds like a second nature. Then they begin to adapt and originate. It is a part of my theory that effort in the direction of originality should not be too early encouraged. It is better to produce a good copy or a good adaptation of first-rate and acknowledged models than a bad original. Where there is talent, originality will develop itself quickly enough; and genius, needless to say, cannot be cabined or suppressed. I quite agree with the late Professor Moody, who says: 'A man of knowledge and refined tastes will be less original than one who does not so completely feel the beauty of the old masters, for he will say, If my work is not better than the old, why should I put it forth?' My boys not only draw and design, but they model and make castings. Here are some little figures in clay which the same two lads have made to-day, still wet from their hands. And this is a cast from a model. Crude, as you see, but not bad, and showing tokens of better things to come."

Mr. Warwood then showed me several specimens of finished jewels and articles that bore plainly on their faces the impress of the principles their author is trying to follow as well as enunciate, good artistic work, excelling in every quality that distinguishes the true from the false.

"Surely work like this meets with full recognition?" I said.

"Recognition, yes; and plenty of demand. People are always ready to buy good stuff if they can get it as cheaply as bad. But until somebody will solve the problem—to me this is unsolvable—how to turn it out at the same price, the demand will continue limited and confined to those who are willing to acknowledge with their purses that there is a difference between the cost of producing such work and the cost, as well as the quality, of much with which the market is flooded."

"Now, Mr. Warwood, I want you to give the readers of the Watchmaker, Jeweler, Silversmith, and Optician some of your ideas, which I am sure they would heartily welcome and profit by. I am deputed by the Editor to tell you that he intends to reserve a page or more a month."

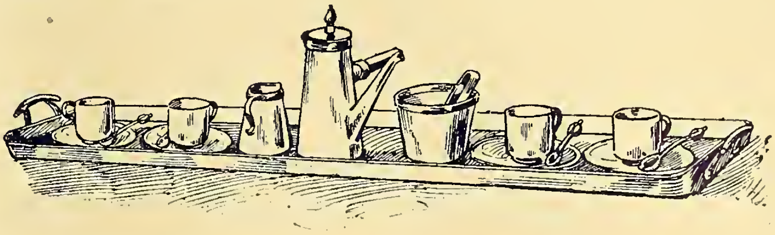
It is needless to give Mr. Warwood's interruption, or to repeat the many excuses he offered for his professed inability on the score of business demands and already excessive pressure of work to comply with this request. His consent was won, together with his admission that such a labor would be not only additional, but one of love.

"But I cannot," he protested, "possibly begin next month. You must give me a little space to connect my thoughts."

"Then I will start the series by writing the introduction for you. Good-bye." And I left him, in the belief that my threat was a simple pleasantry, and quite unconscious that this interview—which his modesty, I know, would wish me not to publish—would form a beginning to his series.

THE NEW FIVE O'CLOCK TEA SET.

An idea that has taken a very firm hold, in a short time considering its absolute originality, is a new form of tray about eighteen to twenty inches in lengths and about four inches wide, intended chiefly for Five O'clock Tea Sets.



The tray is made in either silver or electro-plate, quite plain, the corners being just cut off, and the ends, carrying handles, by which the tray is lifted about. The set illustrated is an example of one of the patterns now in favor. The cups are of white Coalport china, sometimes simple and plain, at others in an open work scroll, silver base. The patterns are usually as plain as possible—plain perhaps to ugliness.

There are others, however, just as ornamental, delicate and beautiful; this difference originating in the plain white ground of the china receiving a beautiful delicate tracery of gold, and the silver stands being of a more ornamental nature, and either gold or parcel-gilt.

Optical Inventions.—All interested in the sale of optical goods should by some means or other see each number of the Journal of the Royal Microscopical Society. At almost every meeting of the society new apparatus, which if stocked would find a ready sale is described; moreover, there are numberless suggestions thrown out which might be put to practical account. At a recent meeting the ever energetic E. M. Nelson exhibited a mirror for the reflection of the real image for drawing purposes in the place of the camera lucida. Two new compressoriums were also described at the same meeting.

The Press and the Big Diamond.—The discovery of the "Jagersfontein Excelsior" has naturally led to the treating of the public to copious extracts from the Arabian Nights of gems, and fables, fabrications, and a few facts have been paraded with all the assurance of gospel truth. A lengthy article in the *Globe*, however, probably takes the cake, in which, amongst other equally correct things, the reader is informed that "the Brazilian stones are found in a kind of soft, soapy muck called blue earth," and that a "carat is a trifle over seven pennyweight troy weight." One would be led to think the would-be gemmologist had had a peep into his cranium, for certainly it must be occupied by something other than brains!

New Companies.—Amongst the companies lately registered, reference might be made to one with a capital of £30,000 in £10 shares, to acquire as a going concern and carry on the business of a watch and clock manufacturer and jeweler hitherto carried on by H. M. Frodsham at 84, Strand, W.C. The first directors are W. May, J. R. Furneaux, and S. E. Neilsen. Qualification, £100. Remuneration, £1 11s. 6d. for the chairman and £1 1s. for each ordinary director per board meeting attended. Another company has been registered by Jordan and Sons, 120, Chancery-lane, W.C., with a capital of £3,000 in £5 shares, to acquire as a going concern the business of a silversmith now carried on by F. Fidler at the Advance Works, Denby-street, Sheffield, and to carry on and extend the same. Registered without articles of association.

Jewelers' Enterprise.—The latest enterprising advertisement in the trade is that of adding visible lapidists at work at the back of the shop. What should we have thought a few years ago to admit rottenstone and emery into a shop, opposite Wilton pile carpets and luxuriously upholstered settees, in palatial Bond-street? Still the public believe in "real makers." and nothing is so taking as showing "how it's done." It is possibly the outcome of the exhibitions. Not that jewelers were the first to realise the fact; pipe mounters, cigarette makers, and several other trades have appealed to the public by placing a workman in the window. To realise the effect these shows have upon the public mind one has only to stand for a while outside one of the establishments where they are to be seen and listen to the remarks that are passed. This latest enterprise, as might be imagined, is the outcome of the fertile brain of Mr. Streeter, and will all help to establish that gentleman in the minds of many as a distinguished authority on all matters pertaining to gems. Views of lapidists at work "at the Bond-street Studio" have lately been given by one of the illustrated papers.

Tickets and Ticket Writing.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from page 76.)

The next feature about this letter A is that it is practically bi-laterally symmetrical, *i.e.*, that a line dividing our rectangle into two equal halves also similarly divides the letter, as shown in the foregoing letters. The next two letters, Fig. 17, show examples of a symmetry, occasioned in the first instance by making the "up-stroke" too straight, and in the second by making it at too great an angle.

We have already pointed out that cross-lines are thin, and without the explanation already given it might appear that the feet, or *serif*, of the A ought to be represented by a straight, thin line; but in the Roman alphabet the angle caused by the union of the serif with another line is—as we have also observed—always obliterated by the introduction of a small curve. This curve—and hence the shape of the serif—by rule 6 is always constant to the same size. It cannot be altered in one letter without treating in a similar manner all the rest. But this latter process would give rise to a new type, which would not be Roman. The alteration of the serif gives rise to innumerable types, many of which it is our purpose to describe. It will be noticed that the two outside lines meet practically in an apex, and are not crowned by a serif as in many founts. The bridge of the A which, being a cross-line is thin, and is not in the centre of the rectangle, but about the centre of the triangle left between the up and down strokes.

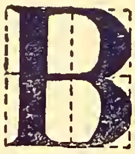


FIG. 18.

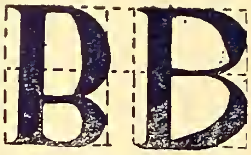


FIG. 19.

THE LETTER B.—Proceeding to the next letter, B, Fig. 18, we see it contained in a rectangular figure similar to the A. It consists of one straight thick line and two curves: with reference to the last we see they are bi-laterally symmetrical in a horizontal plane—*i.e.*, that a horizontal plane across the middle of the rectangle would divide the letter into two halves of the same form and size.

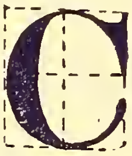


FIG. 20.

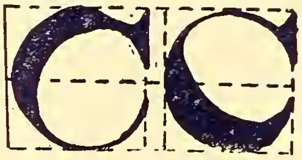


FIG. 21.

Now, by law 4, a curve at its commencement is a cross-line, and, therefore, should begin thin, gradually thicken as it approaches the vertical, and decrease in thickness as it again assumes the horizontal. It therefore begins thin (where it forms the point of the serif) and as it sweeps round becomes a down-stroke, thickening as it approaches the vertical, when it is identical in thickness with the down-stroke; then again diminishing in thickness as it retreats towards the down-stroke.

Imagine for a moment the clumsy, top-heavy letters that would result from a violation of these laws as shown in Fig. 19. In the first letter we see an illustration of an asymmetrical letter, and in the other a case of thickening in the wrong place.

THE LETTER C.—Proceeding to C, Fig. 20, we find it inscribed in a similar rectangle, but we notice that a line drawn vertically and one horizontally cuts the outline into four equal parts. In making this letter it is perhaps as well to first draw a complete oval with the pencil, mark off the thickness of the down-stroke in the centre at the left side, then graduate a curve, and that side will be complete.

Proceeding to the other side, mark off a point about two-fifths along the side of the right top rectangle, join it by a short line to the top corner of the rectangle; then spring another curve from the corner to the main curve, forming about the same angle with it as does the vertical short line. End the bottom curve about the same distance from the centre as does the point of the serif, and the letter is finished. Be sure to make the left curve symmetrical with the horizontal line and not thicker above or below, as in Fig. 21, which shows the effect of so doing. Do not add a serif to the lower curve, first, because it is wrong, and secondly, it confounds the character with the letter G.

THE LETTER D.—This letter differs but little from the letter B, the right side being composed of a single curve instead of two small ones, but otherwise it is built upon exactly the same model. The curve should be horizontally bi-symmetrical. A horizontal line dividing the rectangle into two equal halves should also similarly divide the curve as shown in Fig. 22. If this symmetry is not maintained, a letter similar to those in Fig. 23 will result.

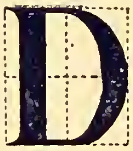


FIG. 22.

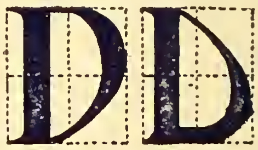


FIG. 23.

At the commencement of the curve at the serif the line should be quite horizontal, nor should it sensibly deviate from this direction till it nearly reaches the centre of the rectangle. A curve should then be sprung to an opposite point on the lower line of the rectangle, passing through the point where the horizontal line of the rectangle meets the vertical. Upon the horizontal line mark off from the curve the thickness of the downstroke. Now spring another curve from it to the same places as the other, passing through this dot; and the inner side of the right hand member of the letter is done.

Spring a small curve from the serifs to the upright on the left side of the downstroke, and the letter is finished.

THE LETTER E.—The letter E is one easily drawn if the principle of inscribing in a rectangle be adhered to. First dot off from the top left corner two-thirds the width of the down-stroke, and from this drop a line straight to the bottom; next point off the full width, which will form the position for the other line of the down-stroke. Draw a line joining the top corners together to form the top line, and the same with the bottom to form the lower line. The letter is now horizontally bi-symmetrical. Draw a line from the top right corner as in making the serif of the C. Point off from the corner upon the upper line the width of the down-stroke, from which spring a curve to the point of the short line or serif; repeat the operation on the bottom for the lower serif. Draw now a line twice as long as the thickness of the down-stroke on the horizontal dividing line, exactly midway between the inside line of the down-stroke and the rectangle. Obliterate the angle by a gentle curve similar to that in the serif of any other letter, as shown in Fig. 24.

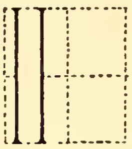


FIG. 24.

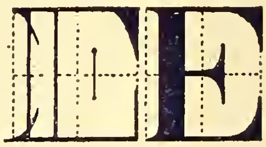


FIG. 25.

To be Continued.

ALL SORTS.

M. Nordmann and Co.—We are informed that Mr. M. Nordmann and Mr. L. Solomon, for many years manager and traveller respectively of the firm of Jules Nordmann, have established themselves on their own account as watchmakers and importers, and will trade under the style of M. Nordmann and Co., at 101, Hatton-garden, London, E.C. We wish them every success.

The Burma Ruby Mines.—The late meeting of the above company revealed a state of affairs which, in the words of the chairman, were not of a very flourishing or roseate character. From March 1st to June 30th £3,000 worth of rubies had been mined. The Government had suspended claim for rent, until the company were showing a profit, which unfortunately they are not doing as yet, and their only hopes of being able to make both ends meet is their faith in better finds. Mr. Streeter suggested sending out a new manager, but the suggestion was not adopted.

Silver from the Broken Hill.—The extraordinary deposits of the Broken Hill are assuredly the Arabian nights of mining, to detail their marvels appears like making gigantic drafts on the credulity of readers. Besides yielding such unheard of supplies of lead with sometimes gold to pay expenses, the monthly output of silver runs into seven figures. This is most significant, because to whatever price silver falls these mines will be able to maintain their output. They are now by far the chief source of supply, as most of the other mines all over the world have had to shut down.

Incandescent Lamps. — Electric companies usually reckon 1,000 hours as the life of a lamp. By that time the incandescent luminant usually becomes blackened. Employment, however, shows that some lamps go black in half the time that others do, as one would expect, bearing in mind their principle of construction and method of manufacture. A French scientist has recently been trying to show that it is uneconomical to run them more than 200 hours and no doubt there is truth in this. Something of the same thing might be said for gas nipples, but yet we keep them in use for years.

From Where American Inventions Come.—Some time ago an ingenious inventor was offering about in England a process whereby he could electrically plate objects with a non-metallic base, such as moss, flowers, ferns, etc. No one, however, seemed to think much of the method of the Continental scientist to electro-plate, and so preserve in electrotype our dead friends. It therefore had to be taken to our more enterprising cousins across the water; and Jonathan is now producing by it some exquisite articles of all descriptions. A spray of ivy, or a wreath of delicate flowers are twisted round a vase, and then plated and gilt with charming effect.

Scarcity of Gold.—Already thoughtful Americans are waking up to the fact that, unless something at present unknown turns up, a time is in store for them when the precious yellow metal will be at a premium, and what such a thing as that means can be best imagined by carrying the thought across the Panama Isthmus. In 1891 America used for industrial purposes—*i.e.*, watch-cases, jewelry, plate, etc.—nearly 20,000,000dol. worth of gold. At that date the total output of the standard metal was only just over 33,000,000dol. In 1892 the arts absorbed very much more than in the previous year without a corresponding increase in the output. If, however, the arts absorb two-thirds of the produce, what about coinage?

An Old Story Re-vamped.—It is going the round of the papers that the old incident which took place not a hundred miles from Bow Church has been successfully repeated at Nice, where two well-dressed members of the light-fingered fraternity are reported to have abstracted a valuable diamond necklace under the following circumstances. They entered the shop, selected the necklace, then left on the pretence of buying a casket for it. On their return, with the aid of a female confederate, they "rung the changes," by substituting for the casket in which they had fitted the necklace, a second casket similar in appearance, but empty.

A Thousandth-of-a-Grain.—At the recent Chemists' Exhibition the public were greatly interested in the exhibit made by Messrs. Oertling and Co., of Turnmill-street, of balances for chemical and other purposes. Amongst the balances shown was one which turned to the thousandth-of-a-grain. Despite this degree of perfection to which the English balances have been brought, there are many members of the trade who still think that to have a pair of good diamond scales it is necessary that they should be of American make. We have seen the most complicated productions of the celebrated New York firm and admired their ingenuity, both those employed in weighing diamonds and in chemical analysis, but we have not yet seen anything in delicacy and precision to equal our own productions.

A Windfall for the Clock and Watchmakers' Asylum.—Mr. Philip Woodman, the indefatigable treasurer of the above laudable institution, has received from Mrs. Spring a cheque for the munificent sum of £350 towards Mr. Woodman's projected building of a house for the reception of widows, referred to by him at the last annual meeting. The late husband of Mrs. Spring was an officer of this charity during his life, and it is in perpetuation of his memory that the donation is made, an example worthy of following by a relic of either sex. Not that one need wait to be left in that lonely position before they think of performing a charitable act. Let them be their own executor, and see the good that is done with what they have to give away, before they are called hence. Of course it would be unkind to mention names, but it is a fact that there are gentlemen, once in the most prominent positions in the trade, who now receive assistance from our trade charities. No one of us can say but that he may be glad to do the same at some future time.

The Beautiful Colored Pearls.—Amongst the exhibits of the World's Fair is a collection of beautiful colored pearls from Wisconsin Rivers. During the rage for the ruthless destruction of the *unionidæ* in the various rivers in the United States, two or three years ago, we tried to show the certainty of the fact that they were killing the goose which was laying the golden eggs, instead of fostering what might be a profitable industry. Now it appears have they realised the fact that there is scarcely a pearl left in the streams, and they will get more and more scarce. If the pearl fishing had been taken upon and protected by the Government all pearls could have been obtained without a slaughter of the innocents. These *unionidæ* have furnished some magnificent pearls of the most delicate and lovely hues. We have seen gems which have realised from £200 to £500, and many more as good might have been had. But, alas, not now! Many years will have to pass before the queenly gem disports herself in her colored robes in the waters where she and her producers have been so greedily sacrificed.

Spectacles at the Workmen's Exhibition.—The recent display made by spectacle makers at the Workmen's Exhibition was one of exceptional excellence, and taxed the jurors' decision. Ultimately the following rewards were made: First prize of £5 5s., Chas. Smith, 12, Cannonbury-road, N., in the employ of the expanding firm of G. Culver, White Lion-street, N. Second prize of £3 3s., to a well-known Birmingham maker, Philip Doran, of 105, Vyse-street. Third prize of £2 2s. was taken by a West End maker, T. V. Wells, 199, Wardour-street, W. Fourth prize of £1 11s. 6d., Jabez Finnimore, 31, Skinner-street, N. The fifth and sixth prizes of £1 1s. and 10s. 6d. go to the country, the former to W. Whitehouse, Queen's-road, Hastings, and the other to T. Wheeler, High-street, Margate. In this the Spectacle Makers' Company have come out handsomely, and even promise more. They also awarded a very appreciable certificate of merit to a large number of exhibitors for the excellence of their work. No less than eight of Curry and Paxton's employes carry off the coveted document, while three of Messrs. Botwright and Gray's and a same number of A. W. Newbold's employes are equally successful. The others are well distributed over the country, which we take to be a good sign of the interest that spectacle makers as a whole take in their craft.

The Electric Transmission of Power.—It is proposed to lay a large pipe between New York and Brooklyn in which miniature mail cars furnished with electro motors carrying the mails are expected to run at the rate of 100 miles an hour. Every day also brings fresh examples of how easily power can be transmitted by the electric cable. There are thousands of operations being performed to-day by power electrically transmitted, which a year or two ago it would have been considered impossible to effect by these means. In Central Europe the small water falls are utilised, and the light distributed over the villages, where, owing to the high price of coal, artificial daylight has come as a gift from the gods. Lapidists are also supplied with the power, which is easily managed and regulated, and laid on by a small wire. Recently we paid a visit to the heights above Sevenoaks where the forest is being cleared for the erection of forts for the defence of London. Instead of hundreds of men being engaged on the operations there are about half-a-score, who are engaged in putting steel chains round the trees and making the connections with the electro motor, the trees being drawn up like teeth from the jaw. The power is obtained from an insignificant little stream which one could jump across, down in the valley below at a distance of a mile and a-half, and transmitted along an insulated wire not much larger than that employed for the telephone. With such a power as this running to waste, no town ought to be without the electric light, and this in the face of vested interests.

Who Said Rats?—Many years ago we gave up as a hopeless problem the accounting for the disappearance of chamois leathers, and our despair of an answer to the question was doubtless shared by many of our confrères. A tale now reaches us from Massachusetts which may, perhaps, throw some light on the mystery. A jeweler lost a number of chamois leathers from off his lathe in succession, and came to the conclusion that they must be taken by rats whose requirements he hoped to be able to satisfy in a short time. One night, however, by mistake, he left a valuable gold watch in a chamois leather bag, upon the bench, which also followed the leathers. This was more than he could stand, and systematic search for the sagacious rodent was immediately instigated. It was then discovered that the familiar pest had taken up his quarters in a box of papers under the counter, whither he had not only taken and nicely folded the chamois leathers into a soft bed, but had stowed away a number of articles belonging to the stock, including the gold watch, the latter not showing the slightest sign of rough usage. Yet when it is stated that the counter was three feet high and the watch a heavy one, it becomes marvellous how transit was effected. It could not possibly have been dropped from that height without either denting the case or breaking the glass. It is a parallel to some of our well-known hen's egg stealing cases of these intelligent creatures, and when things are lost from the bench it may perhaps be well to bear in mind the abilities and nocturnal perambulations of this ingenious rodent.

Some Recent Inventions.

A New Tea and Coffee Pot.

F. RERRICK, of Buda-Pesth, has patented in this country a teapot of somewhat novel features in which the extended flange of the lid is perforated so as to form a strainer. This rests upon the flange b^2 in the pot and is kept in position by a flange a^2, so that in pouring out the liquid it must pass through the strainer. This teapot is well-known in this country although apparently not patented before.

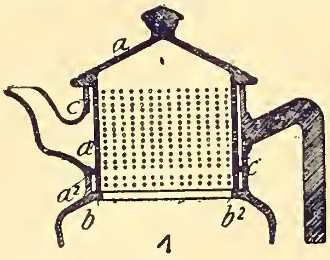


FIG. 1.

Infusion Teapot.

WITHIN the outer case 1 is a cylindrical infusion chamber 3, connected to the spout by a tube 4, and having within it a tightly fitting container capable of being raised and lowered by a rod 12. The container has a solid bottom 9, perforated conical central portion 10, and perforated sides 11. The lid of the infusion chamber 3 is provided with a conical opening 7 for receiving the upper part of the cone 10 and preventing escape of heated air when the container is drawn up. The outer case has an opening 8 by means of which it is filled with hot water for the purpose of heating the infusion chamber.

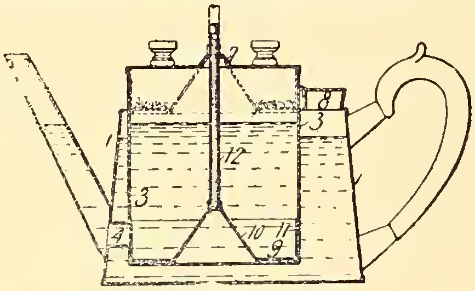


FIG. 3.

New Liquid Cooling Jug.

ONE of the cleanest, nicest, and most sanitary jugs of this sort has been patented by J. T. Heath, Charterhouse-street, E.C. In this arrangement instead of putting the ice—of the purity of which it is impossible to speak—into the liquid, a chamber C is formed in the bottom into which the ice is put and closed down by a covered stopper C^4 before filling the vessel with liquid. Only one drawback suggests itself to our critical eye in this arrangement, viz., that which arises from the expansion of liquids with heat and the opposite, so that one could very nearly freeze the liquid at the bottom without altering its temperature at the top. The spout should, therefore, not be in the rim but low down, as it is only when the jug is partially emptied that the heavy cold liquid gets a chance of being poured out.

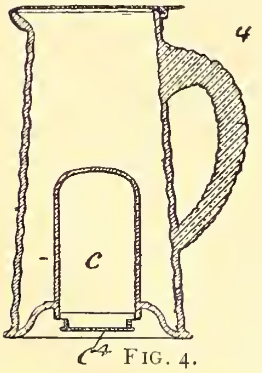
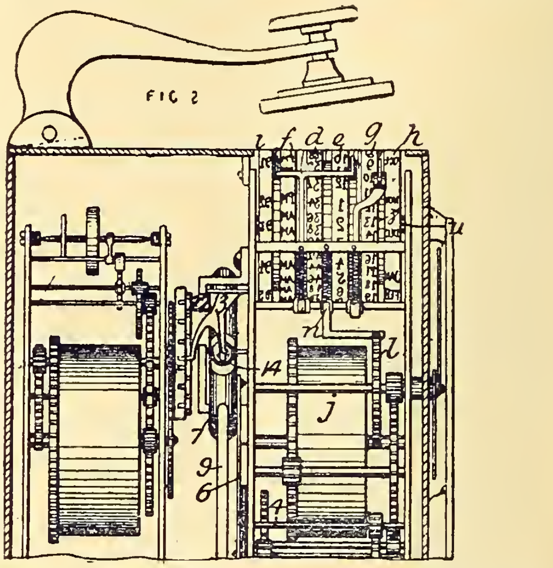


FIG. 4.

A New Time Stamp.

AMONGST the time stamps patented in this country reference might be made to one invented by Garner, of New York. The type wheels, comprising a two-minute wheel d, hour wheel e, meridian wheel f, and day wheel g, are mounted upon a rod u, and are actuated by clockwork, the month and year wheels h and i being preferably operated by hand. The meridian wheel f is turned every hour together with the hour wheel e. The clockwork comprises a spring barrel j, which drives, through a train of gearing, a minute wheel l, engaging with a pawl lever n, for actuating the two-minute wheel d. The wheel d is fitted with a cam which actuates by means of a pawl and ratchet arrangement the hour and meridian wheels, on completion of a revolution; there is also a cam on wheel e, which actuates in a similar way the day wheel g. The movements of the mechanism above described are controlled by a locking arrangement comprising an oscillating tube 7, which is locked at its ends alternately by hooked spring plates 9, and is connected by a rod 6 to a crank disc on shaft 4. The catches 9 are released alternately by a ball 14, which is free to roll along tube 7, and is first held and then released at the proper times by a finger 13, actuated by a crown wheel 22 of special construction forming part of the clockwork shown on the left-hand side of the drawing.



Patents Relating to Watches and Clocks.

AS most of our readers are aware, the Patent Laws of this country make no provision for an official search, so that the patentee has to take the responsibility upon his own shoulders. Of course, the patents relating to clocks and watches in the ordinary course of things are spread over and through innumerable volumes, and the search is most tedious; nor is one ever sure that some have not been missed. To remedy this, or to curtail the labor and expense to the very minimum, and to enable country inventors to make their own searches, the Patent Office have very commendably brought out classified abridgements. The volume now before us, of over a hundred pages, is devoted to Class 139, watches clocks and other timekeepers, from 1877-1883, and is issued at the nominal price of 9d. (11½ post free). There we find abridged specifications of all the patents connected with horology during the period mentioned, mostly illustrated. We hope these classified illustrated lists, which are a sort of second text book of a higher order, will receive the support they so well deserve, and so encourage the authorities to bring out another volume bringing us more closely up to date. We say it inhesitatingly that no one connected with the trade ought to be without this most valuable volume. Altogether there are about four hundred inventions described. The improvements in watches embrace more particularly keyless actions, chronographs, and escapements. Clocks claim a larger share of attention both in the introduction of machinery in the process of manufacture, and also in the use of electricity and compressed air for controlling secondary clocks. In some both electricity and pneumatics are resorted to in a manner which clearly shows that the idea of the inventor was to be able to "lay on" time to every user in a manner analogous to water and gas. But there are numerous other very cogent reasons why we so thoroughly advise all our readers to invest a shilling in this horological cyclopædia.

Compliments from India.—Messrs. J. C. Bechtler and Son, jewelers, Allahabad and Mussoorie, India, write us: "We are agreeably surprised with the get-up of your paper and find it quite a mine of the information so valuable to business people abroad."

In and Out of the Courts

The Committal of M'Shane.

Charles Victor M'Shane was again brought up at Marlborough-street Police-court on the 3rd ult. Mr. Paten then stated that, having gone through his stock, the total amount missing was about £3,700. Since his arrest M'Shane had given every assistance in tracing the property, which calls to mind the remark of a judge a week or two ago, "assisted the police in defrauding the pawnbrokers. The prisoner got everything he could get out of the pawnbrokers, and then gave up the pawnbrokers." Mr Paten said that he understood that nearly all the property would be returned to him by Messrs. Attenborough and Messrs. Bravington, with whom the greater part had been pledged. Prisoner was further remanded till the 10th ult., when it transpired that M'Shane had taken to betting. He was committed for trial.

The M.M.A. and Instrument Makers.

It became evident on the 3rd ult. that there were other societies besides that connected with the horological branch of our trade whose business it was to enforce the provisions of the M.M.A. The Master Barometer and Tube Blowers' Association made an attack upon one of the very oldest and most influential optical houses in the trade—Messrs. Dollond—from whom they purchased a clinical thermometer for three shillings bearing the legend "Dollond and Co., London." Being able to show that this instrument was of German manufacture, they were able to induce the Board of Trade to institute proceedings. Mr. Eldridge, for the prosecution, contended that the words "Dollond and Co., London," were calculated to lead the purchaser to believe that the article was of English make. The words "Made in Germany" would appear on the instruments when they passed the Customs, but as they were written in lamp-black they could be easily erased. He did not suggest, however, that Messrs. Dollond had done this.—Mr. Crawford, manager of the firm of Messrs. Dollond and Co., denied that in the sale of the thermometer there had been on the part of the firm the least intention to deceive the public as to its manufacture. He was not aware that the article was of German manufacture at the time of the sale. He paid 18s. per dozen for the instruments.—Mr. Alderman Newton said that, having regard to the importance of the prosecution, he should impose a fine of £10 for applying the false trade description.—Mr. Eldridge did not proceed upon the second summons for selling the thermometer.—A similar charge was preferred against Messrs. Leslie and Co., surgeon's sundrymen, of Bond Court House, Walbrook, who were similarly fined, but against which they appealed.

"Tally" Bargains.

On the 9th ult. a case came before the Leeds County-court, whither it had been remitted from the High Court in London, in which David Isaac, jeweler, of Upperhead-row, Leeds, sued Emma Buckle for £35, being the balance owing in respect to two diamond rings sold to the defendant for £77 10s. It appeared that the latter, after having paid £42 10s., tested the value of one of the rings at an avuncular relative's, who offered upon a stretch to advance £9 upon it. Naturally the lady thought she had already paid sufficient for the two jewels, which had been sold to her as diamonds "of the first water." The latter, although a difficult phrase to translate into legal English, led the lady to imagine that the gems were of the best quality possible to be obtained, and having been told that this was not the case she refused to pay any more instalments. But of course it is no use locking the stable door after the horse is gone, and when a bargain has been signed, it is rarely that a judge will cancel it. The plaintiff, on the other hand, maintained that the diamonds were of first rate quality, and very cheap. No witnesses being called by either side, his Honor decided for the jeweler with costs.

The Robbery at the Lady Jeweler's.

John Shine and Thomas James, who paid a visit to the Lady Jeweler in Clifford-street, W., and relieved her of a bracelet to the value of £120, were sentenced at the last London Sessions, the former to five years' penal servitude, and the latter to three years and six months' similar employment. The prosecutor stated there were other indictments of a precisely similar nature against the prisoners, including one in which they managed to steal a whole tray of rings. These, however, were not gone into; whether they are reserved for a future occasion did not transpire. Let us hope they are, as Shine is a well-known old gaol-bird, and has operated not only in England, but on the Continent.

A Geneva Sold for a Lever Watch.

Recently, at the Manchester County-court, Messrs. Mabbott and Co., of 51, Lever-street, sued John Smith, of 219, Oldham-road, for £1 8s., being a balance due under a hiring agreement. The defendant put in a counter claim for £1 10s. on account of a deposit paid and attendance at the City Police-court. It appears the defendant purchased two watches on the ordinary tally system, and paid a deposit of 10s., but subsequently discovering that the watches, which had been sold to him as English levers, were only Genevas, of very common quality, he refused to pay any further sum. Some police-court proceedings followed. The judge severely criticised the conduct of the persons who had sold the watches, remarking it was a case of gross misrepresentation. His Honor gave judgment for the defendant with costs, on the plaintiff's claim, and also on the counter claim, ordering the return of the 10s paid as deposit.

A Well Merited Sentence.

Recently, at the Central Criminal-court Mr. Commissioner Kerr sentenced a man named Thomas Owen (thirty) to seven years' penal servitude, and so rid the trade and the public of a criminal of a class of which happily there are few. His last position in the trade was as traveller to a jeweler named Baker, whom he robbed of all the samples entrusted to him. A clergyman then took compassion on him and gave him the position of manager in a temperance hotel, when he again began his old thieving games. It was afterwards shown that he had married quite a number of women, and lived with them as long as they had any money.

The I. D. B.-ing Case.

The man Michael Hannifin, of Beaconsfield, South Africa, who has been apprehended in this country, has been sent back. The depositions from Africa of Thomas Hayes, a diamond digger at Barkley, West Griqualand, set out that the prisoner had been lately a canteen keeper and dealt in diamonds. One day the prisoner told him that he had some stones, and they went out into the veldt to weigh them. They came to eighty-five carats, and were valued at £850.

Another Dangerous Clergyman.

Recently the Yeovil magistrates committed for trial a shrewd, well dressed, middle-aged clergyman, who gave the name of John Lindsay. It appears the prisoner called at the shop of J. Tyte, jeweler, of Yeovil, and ordered a gold albert chain value £10 5s., and a silver watch of the value of £2 2s., saying that he had been recommended there by the Rev. Mr. Fox, of Templecombe. Upon this recommendation the goods were supplied to him. Prisoner afterwards called on Mr. E. A. Kemp, of Yeovil, and tried to negotiate a loan for £25, offering as security the articles named and several pawntickets for articles of jewelry. Mr. Kemp, however, refused to advance the money, and prisoner then went to Salisbury, where he succeeded in borrowing the £25 on the security offered.

Painful Charge Against a Clergyman's Daughter.

Frances Maud Boulby was recently committed for trial upon a charge of obtaining goods by false pretences from Messrs. John Barker, Kensington, and also similarly obtaining two cigar-cases from A. J. Tyler, Ealing. In selecting the cigar-cases she at first asked for them to be sent to a Mrs. Bollen, residing in Mount Park-road, but subsequently said she would take them herself.

Police Organisation.

The Tredegar police are to be congratulated on a clever capture on the 8th ult. Having received instructions that a robbery had been committed at Lewis Freeman's, Merthyr, and that the perpetator was supposed to have made for Tredegar, the servants of the law waited upon all the pawnbrokers and at last succeeded in finding the object of their quest, whom they lost no time in bringing to justice. About eighty articles of jewelry were found upon him. The burglary was effected by breaking a pane of plate glass.

More Lock-up Shop Burglaries.

A lock-up shop belonging to George Feather, jeweler and watchmaker, East Parade, Keighley, was burglariously entered between Saturday, 12th ult., and Monday, 14th. Entrance having been readily gained to a cabinetmaker's shop over the jeweler's, the knights of the jemmy bored no less than eighty holes through the ceiling, through which they lowered themselves into the shop and there helped themselves to about £40 worth of booty, with which they successfully decamped unnoticed.

A Big Scotch Burglary.

A SIMILAR robbery to the foregoing was perpetrated a week before, at the premises of Jno. Buchanan, jeweler, 59, Eglinton-street, Glasgow. In this case entrance was effected through an adjoining empty shop, but the burglars must have known something of the topography of the premises, as they knew just where to bore to be able to remove the bolts. Two safes were opened and the contents, to the value of about £300, carried off, without making sufficient noise to be heard by a sick girl or her attendant who were in the room above.

Extensive Robberies from a Jeweler.

ON the 12th ult., at Manchester, Arthur Illingworth, a respectably-attired young man, and Mary Radley were charged, the former with stealing and the latter with receiving numerous articles of jewelry, gold and silver watches, timepieces, opera-glasses, cruets, etc., the property of a jeweler in Market-street, Manchester, by whom the male prisoner had been employed. The latter was sentenced to three months' hard labor, the woman being discharged on promising to go to a home.

A Jeweler Robbed by his Domestic.

ON the 2nd ult. the Bingley (Yorks) magistrates sentenced Christiana Cook, a domestic servant in the employ of James Edmonson, Bingley, to three months' imprisonment for stealing from her master sundry articles of jewelry to the value of £4 7s. 6d. In her possession was found a key which fitted the drawer in which the valuables had been placed.

A Soldier Shoplifter.

ONE cannot help being struck with the similarity of action adopted by soldiers when they turn to shop-lifting. Having got possession of what they require they almost invariably depend upon their own strength to retain it, and make an undisguised bolt. Recently a private of the Gloucestershire Regiment entered the shop of A. J. Nash, Old Market-square, Bristol, and asked to see some rings, with one of which—valued at 14s.—he deliberately made off. He was subsequently apprehended, and sentenced to twenty-one days' imprisonment.

Extensive Robbery of Samples.

MR. THOMSON, one of the travellers of Messrs. Fulda and Davies, Hatton-garden, was recently relieved of samples to the value of about £400. It appears that Mr. Thomson put up at the George Hotel, Portsmouth, and leaving his samples safe in the bedroom about eight o'clock in the evening went to Southsea Common. On his return at ten o'clock, the contents of his bag had disappeared, the extractor unfortunately leaving no clue behind him.

Yet Another Burglary.

RECENTLY the premises of W. Scorer, Havant, were burglariously entered from the back, and a quantity of rings, watches, bracelets, etc., stolen. It appears that the side entrance, which is a joint passage for two shops, was left unfastened. The burglar went up this entrance, and, wrenching a board off the top of the back door to the jeweler's premises, unbolted it, and got into a greenhouse, the door of which he easily forced. He then let himself into the shop, and appropriated twenty-one gold and silver watches, one diamond and sapphire bracelet, three gold bangles, four diamond rings, about two dozen silver bracelets, 200 silver rings, eighty silver thimbles, fifty silver alberts and Victorias, fifteen gold ditto, gold brooches and earrings, links, and about sixty wedding rings, keepers, and fancy rings.

The Silver Gilt Change.

RECENTLY a well dressed old gentleman paid a visit to A. St. P. Cufflin, Upper Norwood, and asked to see some gold alberts. After some time and examination he decided to see some silver ones, one of which he bought for 12s. Immediately he had left the assistant noticed that a change had been rung with a silver gilt albert, and the "gentleman" was immediately pursued and caught, and brought back to the shop. Upon the way back he threw away the chain he had taken, but was seen in the act.

An Agreement Binds.

A SOMEWHAT curious case was recently tried at the York summer assizes. It appears that Mr. Siltberg, a jeweler having been paid out of his premises in Spurriergate, entered into negotiations with Mr. Simpson with respect to several other shops. Subsequently a bargain was struck, plaintiff agreeing to pay £2,000, and making a deposit of £100. After this he alleged certain mis-statements with regard to the nature of the premises had been made, and wrote withdrawing from the contract and asking for the refunding of the £100. In the course of examination plaintiff admitted that he asked defendant to let him off £200 and that £1,800 was agreed upon. His lordship dismissed the claim of the plaintiff for the recission of the contract and for both claim and counterclaim, and granted defendant £125 expenses.

A Serious Charge to Make.

JOHN RUSSEL, watchmaker, 10, Sun-street, Spital Hill, Sheffield, has taken steps which may perhaps cost him some serious regret. Recently he went to Mexborough and informed the police that a watchmaker of that town named Samuel Ogden, had formerly lived with him, and that when he left his employ Ogden had stolen tools to the value of £5. As the police authorities knew Ogden to be a respectable tradesman, and that he had been in business there for six years, they practically refused to take any steps in the matter, and referred Russel back to the Sheffield police, who sent a detective to bring Ogden to Sheffield, where Russel preferred the charge. Russel stated that defendant came to him in a destitute condition in February, 1887, and worked for him for five years. He then took to drink, and left the place, taking with him a gold watch; also tools to the value of £5, together with a new clock. He had never heard of defendant since until a few days before, when he saw his name in the directory. Certain tools were produced in court which Russel unhesitatingly identified as his, but about others he was not so sure. Evidence was then called to show that the tools identified by Russel had been bought by defendant in various places, who from the first assured Russel he had made a mistake in identification. Upon calling witnesses for the prosecution each failed to recognise defendant, nevertheless Russel would persist in calling the defendant a "prowling thief." In accepting the discharge of the defendant, his solicitor publicly announced that it was the intention of Mr. Ogden to make Russel suffer for what he had done.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND OPHTHALMOLOGY.

At the recent meeting of the British Medical Association several papers of importance were read in the Ophthalmological Section. Much of the matter was too technical for report in our columns, but a few extracts from the address delivered by Mr. G. E. Williamson, M.A., F.R.C.S., as president of the section, are well worth consideration.

"The public generally are not aware how far the mechanism of the eye is understood, how far its interior can be explored, how accurately its defects can be gauged, and how often those defects can be remedied. If some knowledge of optics were general we should not need to insist upon this, nor should we see the public deluded by specious advertisements of certain kinds of glasses superior to any others. The prejudice against glasses, which in some cases is so strong that a man may not wear them at work, even when they give him certain sight, would disappear, and the increase of those using lenses would be in proportion to increasing knowledge in civilisation. Indeed, what with the growing use of the eyes for close work, and with scientific zeal in correcting errors of refraction, we may ultimately reach a position in which a man who goes about with his eyes naked will be so rare that the sight of him would almost raise a blush. We should, I think, urge upon medical men generally the desirability of sending patients with whose defective vision they are themselves perhaps unable to cope, to oculists, as the public naturally receive a wrong impression when educated and qualified practitioners recommend them to be tested by opticians, or even to proceed to a jeweler's to select for themselves the glasses with which they see best. Take, for instance, those cases of refraction headaches which are now so frequently referred to us by physicians; many of whom have good vision, and protest that they require no aid; yet the wearing of correct lenses relieves their headaches, and restores to them the full use of their eyes. I need not cite the instances of disease that are so constantly coming under our notice in those who think that all they require is the aid of a pair of spectacles. Whilst fully recognising the trouble taken by many opticians, I think that their part of the work will ultimately be the carrying out of orders; and this will come the sooner when everyone, before he begins his life's work, has his eyes seen to and reported upon by the ophthalmologist."

OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

ARONSBERG, William, *Optician*, 12, Victoria-street, Manchester. In this case the creditors met on the 9th ult., and again on the 16th ult. Debtor stated that he commenced business as an optician twenty-nine years ago, with £200. He also traded in Liverpool, where in 1885 he became insolvent. In 1890 he took his son, Aaron, into partnership with him, but dissolved their business connection in 1892. Recently he was sued for a breach of promise, the young lady being awarded £700 damages. The total deficits are set down at £1,307 4s. 7d., and the statement of affairs shows unsecured creditors £854 9s. 6d. Credits partly secured (the young lady), £700; preferential creditors, £60 15s. 1d.; estimated to rank, £672. The gross liabilities are set down at £1,606, of which £1,517 are expected to rank. The stock, costing £600, is valued at £225; trade fittings, &c., £20; deposited with solicitor for costs of petition, £13; good book debts, £10; less £60 for rent. Causes of failure attributed to breach of promise case and falling off of sales consequent upon strikes. The following are amongst the creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Barker, F., and Son	London	17	8	6
Culver, Geo.	,,	64	0	0
Levi S. I., and Co.	,,	20	13	0
Levi, Jos., and Co.	,,	26	8	10
Nitsche and Gunter	,,	28	18	11
Pastrolli and Rapkin	,,	83	8	8
Société des Lunetiers	,,	100	7	0
Morris Bros. and Co., Ltd.	,,	41	16	6
Purdon and Stokes	,,	40	7	9
Evans, Wm., and Co.	Manchester	27	12	6
Moss, I. S., and Son	,,	19	16	0
Taylor, Garnett, Evans, and Co.	,,	42	16	0
Ward, Edward	,,	18	3	7
Lenton and Rusby	Sheffield	14	13	11

BAKER, John Simpkin Bradley (trading as John Baker and Co.), *Cutlers*, Upper Phœnix Cutlery Works, Wheeldon-street, and 305, Upperthorne-street, Sheffield. The first meeting of the creditors of the above was held on the 3rd ult. The Official Receiver stated that the unsecured creditors amounted to £3,311. The creditors partly secured were £3,507, less estimated value of securities £1,015, leaving to rank for dividend £2,492. There was a liability on bills of £147, making total liabilities £5,951. The assets included cash in hand £22, cash deposited with solicitor for costs £17, stock-in-trade £1,100, estimated to produce £700, furniture £100, other property £1,530, book debts £470, bills of exchange £23, making a total of £2,863. Deducting £39 for creditors for rates and wages, it left £2,823, and a deficiency of £3,127. The bankrupt commenced business in 1865 without capital. He stated that he had kept a cash book with ledger and other books, and that these were destroyed by the fire at his premises last May. The first statement issued was "wrong on the right side," the debtor having calculated the item of £2,492 10s. 5d. for preferential creditors which would have to rank twice over. Therefore, the position of the creditors was better by that amount. The account was unsatisfactory, and, therefore, would require thoroughly investigating. It was a very extraordinary fact that the fire occurred just at the time when the auditing ought to have taken place. The bankrupt had drawn out of the concern about £300 a year for himself. Looking at the matter all through, there appeared to be very many suspicious circumstances. He could not tell them all he had heard about it, but it was one of those cases that would require very strict investigation, particularly after the fire that had taken place. With regard to the deficiency account, the bankrupt said he had lost £224 6s. 8d. during the last year; that he had made bad debts, £103 11s. 8d.; and that he had taken out of the concern for himself £300. He estimated the loss of stock, machinery, and fixtures destroyed or damaged by the fire at £2,000. The Official Receiver could not understand how the bankrupt made this out, because the place was insured, and everything possible had been included in the claim. The matter was left in the hands of the Official Receiver.

COLSTON, James, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 24, Royal Arcade, Cardiff, and in apartments, 22, King's-road, Cardiff. A meeting of creditors in this case has been held. The gross liabilities are set down at £567, and assets at £195. The debtor commenced business in 1885 with £550 borrowed, and since re-paid. Since July, 1892, he has lost in trading £30, household expenses £104, depreciation of stock £190, attributed to the stock being old, and having been bought from his late employer at cost price. Mr. G. G. Poppleton, C.A., Birmingham, was appointed trustee, and the debtor adjudicated a bankrupt.

HASLETT, David, *Goldsmith*, 18, Golden-square, W. The first meeting of the creditors interested herein was held at the London Bankruptcy Court on the 22nd ult. The debtor's statement of affairs disclosed gross liabilities at £667, of which £612 was due to unsecured creditors, and the assets were returned at £58. As there was not a quorum of creditors present, no resolutions were passed, and the estate will be administered by the Official Receiver. The following are amongst the creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Rigg, H. J.	London	130	0	0
Collins, W. J.	,,	30	0	0
Herbert, R. J.	,,	15	0	0
Whitehorn, Ernest	,,	440	0	0
Schnieder, L.	,,	18	0	0
Schnieder, Wm.	,,	20	0	0

JEFFERY, William, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, Circus-road, St. John's Wood, N.W. The public examination of the above bankrupt came on for hearing on the 27th ult., at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar Hoope. In reply to questions put by the Official Receiver, the debtor said he started business in 1882 with practically no capital. There was a mortgage over the business, which he agreed to pay off by instalments of £2 per week. That business was in St. John's Wood, and he carried it on for 15 months, the result of which was a heavy loss. He then sold the business, but received no cash consideration, as he simply transferred the mortgage. His failure had been caused through his losses at that shop. His liabilities now amounted to £280, and his assets to £100. There was also a fully-secured creditor for £25. He had never prepared a balance-sheet or profit and loss account. He should think he lost £300 at that shop. He did not lose it all at once, but it gradually drifted to that amount. Notwithstanding that amount he had continued in business, hoping to retrieve his position. He had never been bankrupt or insolvent before, or made any composition with his creditors. The debtor was then allowed to pass his examination. The following are amongst the creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Buckingham, J.	London	19	0	0
Buet, G.	,,	20	0	6
Gray, E.	,,	17	0	0
Greenwood	,,	32	0	0
Henry, A.	,,	13	0	0
Jeffery, M.	,,	192	0	0
Hunter and Son	Sheffield	12	0	0

KEIR, James, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, Canton, and 38, Castle Arcade, Cardiff. In this case a receiving order and adjudication has been made. First meeting at the Official Receiver's, Cardiff, on 2nd ult., and the examination at the Town Hall, Cardiff, October 2nd. The statement of affairs shows gross liabilities £637, against which assets are estimated at £137, less £19 preferential claims; leaving a deficiency of £520. The following are amongst the creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Michael Bros.	London	17	0	6
Stainton, Joseph	Birmingham	10	12	9
Dight, M. L., and Sons	,,	12	18	11
Wilmot, C. D., and Son	,,	22	14	10
Lyons, S.	,,	42	0	0
Unna, I. A.	,,	59	0	0
Bowen, G., and Son	,,	34	5	4
Perrins, W. C.	,,	45	4	11
Feldman, M.	,,	18	4	0
Cross, George, and Co.	,,	38	1	0
Bankers' Claims		42	0	0
Preferential Creditors		19	14	0

LONDON METALLURGICAL COMPANY (Limited). The first meeting of the creditors of this company was held on the 15th ult., at the Inns of Court Hotel. This company was registered in December, 1890, with a capital of £15,000, afterwards increased to £20,000, to acquire various patents, amongst them being a plating patent known as the Arcas plating process. The consideration was agreed at £6,000, payable in cash and shares. The company entered into an agreement to sell the Arcas patent for £4,000, but, hearing that the purchaser proposed in his turn to sell it to a company for £25,000, they came to the conclusion they had made a bad bargain, and obtained a rescission of the contract by paying the purchaser £5,000 in bills. Those bills had not yet been met, and formed part of the present liabilities of the company. In November, 1892, the Metallurgical Company proceeded to form a company to take over the patents, and the Arcas Plating Company (Limited) was promoted with a capital of £80,000, of which £50,000 was to be devoted to the acquisition of the patents, &c. The business of that company was subsequently carried on for a time by the London Metallurgical Company, and eventually possession of it was taken by a debenture-holder of the latter company. The case was left in the hands of the Official Receiver, to be wound up in the usual manner. The gross liabilities are set down at £17,896, assets £10,960. Probably some questions will arise as to liabilities of shareholders, the case being a most complicated one.

MILNE, HERBERT DAVID, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 5, HIGH-STREET, CRAYFORD, KENT. In this case a receiving order and adjudication has been made, and the first meeting and examination held. By far the largest creditor is Messrs. Troup, £110; Messrs. Chaplin and Son standing in for £59. There are also several other firms for about £10 each.

MERRIMAN, ALBERT VICTOR, *Jeweler*, WORCESTER-STREET, KIDDERMINSTER, also trading as THE DANISH IMPORT COMPANY, LUTON. This debtor has filed a petition in the Kidderminster Bankruptcy Court and has been adjudicated a bankrupt. The gross liabilities are set down at £255, of which £237 are expected to rank. Debtor had been in business nearly three years, although only of age last December.

MITCHELL, JOHN BAKER, *Jeweler*, PORTLAND. The public examination of the above debtor took place on the 4th ult., at the Dorchester Bankruptcy Court. The liabilities are set down at £353, assets estimated at £106, deficit £247 6s. 5d. In answer to questions debtor said he commenced business in 1888 on £20 lent him by his father. It appeared he borrowed £30 from the Southern Counties Deposit Bank, giving as security a bill of sale on his furniture, had to pay an exorbitant rate of interest, and was ultimately sold up by them. Debtor said he understood the bill of sale merely included his furniture, but they sold up his stock as well. He attributed his failure to general falling-off in business, but a creditor attributed this to neglect of his business by the debtor, and he also animadverted on debtor having borrowed money at a time when he could not pay his creditors. The examination closed, and the debtor was allowed to pass his examination.

NICHOLAS, JOHN SAMUEL, *Jeweler*, SHEAF-STREET, DAVENTRY. In this case the debtor was a journeyman jeweler, and in 1886 commenced business with no capital. In October, 1891, he made a composition arrangement with his creditors, paying 5s. in the £, to meet which he executed a bill of sale upon all his belongings. The holder of the bill of sale forcing realisation necessitated the petition. The statement of affairs shows a deficiency of £80.

REHFIELD, CHARLES JULIUS, *Watchmaker*, 75, RED LION-STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. The above debtor came up for examination on the 11th ult. He stated that he had been in business at the above address for 26 years. He kept no books. Five or six years ago he had pledged the lease of his house for £100, and had since repaid £35 and interest. He now owed the landlord £75 for rent. He had sublet the house in tenements, and lived upon the rent. Amongst the creditors are:—Crawley, J. S., Luton, £35; Pool, Hendon, £30; Lambley, London, £15, together with several others.

SANDEMAN, JACOB, *Jeweler*, BOLD-STREET, LIVERPOOL. This debtor has been up several times since our last issue; but a case which the Registrar has characterised as "the most shocking state of things that I have ever come across in the whole of my experience," and the debtor's whole story as "a tissue of fabrications," has necessarily a list of disclosures too long to be gone into here. The debtor alleges that he lost £1,900 in betting, and £700 on women, but can give neither dates, names, nor addresses. We hope to be able to report a just termination of this disgraceful case.

DEEDS OF ASSIGNMENT.

BROWN, JOHN (PARKER AND BROWN, trading as), *Silversmiths*, GARDEN-STREET, SHEFFIELD, has applied for his discharge. It was shown that applicant had become involved in a building society, into which he had paid no less than £2,500 for property worth £700. The Judge, considering Brown had been unfortunate, granted his discharge.

ELLAMS, CHARLES, *Optician*, 19, HOPE-STREET, AND 17, MARKET-STREET, HANLEY, has executed a deed of assignment for the benefit of his creditors. The unsecured liabilities are £409, and the assets estimated at about £150. Amongst the creditors are:—

		£	s.	d.
Raphael, J., and Son	London	30	0	0
Culver, George	,,	31	10	0
Darton and Son	,,	12	5	9
Simmonds and Co.	,,	14	7	6
Gibbons, W.	Birmingham	52	5	0
Dight and Son	,,	27	11	6
Walter, G. and F.	,,	12	1	9
Nathali and Sons	Manchester	48	18	5

HART, WALTER, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 177, COWBRIDGE-ROAD, CARDIFF, has offered a composition of 10s. in the £, payable by six instalments from October 7th at three-monthly intervals. Trustee: G. G. Poppleton, C.A., Birmingham. The unsecured liabilities are £425 and the estimated assets £250. Amongst the creditors are:—

		£	s.	d.
Michael Bros.	London	33	10	3
Hirsch, Pritchard, and Co.	,,	11	19	0
Round, S.	Birmingham	149	13	5
Wattis, G. and F. E.	,,	16	10	0
Sharpe and Green	,,	14	5	2
Wright and Co.	,,	18	18	5
Hart, T.	Marlborough	55	0	0
Hart, A. T.	Prestwick	40	0	0

HERMANN, SCHNABEL, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 18, HIGH-STREET, SYDENHAM, has assigned his effects to Louis Schnabel, 79, North-end, Croydon, watchmaker and jeweler, and another, as Trustees, offering a composition of 6s. 8d. in the £, payable 1s. 3d. at three, six, nine, and twelve months, and 1s. 8d. at eighteen months from date thereof, last instalment secured by a surety. The unsecured liabilities are £443, and the estimated net assets £204 10s. Amongst the creditors are:—

		£	s.	d.
Thompson and Son	London	35	5	0
Gollancz	,,	17	10	0
Light, Edward	,,	17	15	0
Over, T.	,,	75	0	0
Grimshaw and Baxter	,,	15	5	0
Greenwood and Son	,,	11	0	0
Quandt, F. W.	Catford	155	3	1
Schnabel, Louis	Croydon	35	0	0

JONES, SAMUEL, *Jeweler*, 113, HIGH-ROAD, KILBURN, has made an assignment to W. Wells and others. Composition of 8s. in the £: payable, 5s. one month from date and 3s. on February 1st. Unsecured liabilities are set down at £1,026, and assets at £653. Amongst the creditors are:—

		£	s.	d.
Stockall, J. J., and Sons	London	35	0	0
Thompson and Son	,,	30	0	0
Light, E.	,,	28	0	0
Atkin Bros.	,,	29	0	0
Baume and Co.	,,	30	0	0
Wells, W.	,,	267	0	0
Densham, —	,,	100	0	0
Joseph, —	,,	85	0	0
Tilley, —	,,	52	0	0
Smith, —	,,	40	0	0

LAWRENCE, JOSEPH, *Jeweler*, 46, NORTH-STREET, and 15, CLAREMONT-TERRACE, PRESTON PARK, BRIGHTON, has made a deed of assignment; Henry Williamson, 81, Farringdon-road, London, and another acting as Trustees. The liabilities are estimated at £1,985, and the assets at £1,000. Amongst the creditors are:—

		£	s.	d.
Carthian and Beaumetz	London	39	0	0
Ehrman, B.	,,	66	0	0

		£	s.	d.
Guichard, H.	London	34	0	0
Martin, Hall, and Co.	,,	18	0	0
Smith, John, and Sons	,,	22	0	0
Cook, F.	,,	300	0	0
Williamson, H., Limited	,,	742	0	0
Ahronsberg Bros.	Birmingham	18	0	0
Blanckensee, S., and Sons	,,	199	0	0
Gyde, E. L.	,,	138	0	9
Hayes, Tom	,,	57	0	0
Lothian, M. and L.	,,	18	0	0
Marks, J.	,,	29	0	0
Bankers' Claims		98	0	0

LIDDLE, John, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, late 23, Linthorpe-road, Middlesbro', has filed a deed of arrangement; G. G. Poppleton, C. A., Birmingham, as Trustee, with committee of inspection. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £1,213, and the assets estimated at £446. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Cooper, H. J., and Co.	London	29	0	0
Dimier Bros.	,,	33	0	0
Wolffe Bros.	Birmingham	314	0	0
Holmes, W. J.	,,	39	0	0
Austin and Steeley	,,	26	0	0
Joseph, B. H., and Co.	,,	76	0	0
Asteli, H.	,,	42	0	0
Waddington, R.	Coventry	23	0	6
Mellor, T., and Co.	Manchester	25	0	0
Fruitman and Francis	Newcastle	16	0	0
Willis, M., and Son	Sheffield	28	0	0
Richardson, R.	,,	21	0	0
Gallimore, J.	,,	21	0	0

YATES, John, *Jeweler*, late 202, now 204, Wharf-street, and 5, Russell-square, Leicester, has made an assignment. Trustee: Arthur W. Heath, with a committee of inspection. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £521, and the estimated net assets at £580. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Drews, J., and Co....	London	21	0	0
Perrier, M. A.	,,	21	0	0
Baer, Bernard	,,	19	0	0
Berger, A.	,,	13	0	0
Ahronsberg Bros.	Birmingham	97	0	0
Griffith, William, and Son	,,	96	0	0
Cotterill, A. B.	,,	36	0	0
Harris, H., and Co.	,,	31	0	0
Jacob, Aaron (Trustee of)...	,,	22	0	0
Deakin, J., and Son	Sheffield	18	0	0
Bankers' Claims...		78	0	0

WIEL, Isidore, *Silversmith*, 43 and 46, Museum-street, Bloomsbury. Discharge of this bankrupt has been granted as from July 12th, 1895.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED.

MARCUS, John, *Jeweler and Watch and Clock Maker*, 72, Oxford-street. Dividend of 5s. 11d. at Wholesale Traders' Association, 26, Corporation-street, Birmingham, March 29th.

DISSOLUTIONS OF PARTNERSHIP.

BRIGHTMORE, ALLAN, and Co., *Jewelers*, 8 and 10, Mealhouse-brow, Stockport. July 19th. Debts by Allan Brightmore, who continues on his own account.

BRAMWELL, BROWNHILL, and Co., *Electro-Plate Manufacturers*, Cyprus Works, Fawcett-street, Sheffield. June 16th. Debts by Edwin Stovin Bramwell, who continues under the style of Bramwell and Co.

DERBY and Co., *Diamond Merchants and Bullion Dealers*, 44, Clerkenwell-road. June 30th.

MASSEY and MATTHEWS, *Silversmiths, Jewelers, and Money Changers*, 113, Leadenhall-street. July 31st. Debts by John Matthews, who continues.

MAWER, H., and Co., *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, 6, South-street, Manchester-square. July 18th.

NAYLOR, J. and A., *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, 4, The Pavement, Broughton-road, Stoke Newington. December 25th, 1892.

SHAW, James, Son, and Co., *Bell Founders, Clock Makers, and General Brass Founders*, Penny Oaks Musical Bell and Church Clock Works, Lindhurst-street, Bradford. July 26th. As regards Thornton Harrison.

WINDER and LAMB, *Silversmiths, Silver Chasers, Electro-platers and Gilders*, 3, Temple-lane, Dublin. July 28th. Debts by Frederick J. Winder.

George Baylis Himself Again.—We are informed that George Baylis, 60a, Spence-street, Birmingham, has again got his estate back from the trustee, and that the old business is now going on again as it had done till recently for the last fifty years. He publishes an excellent list of chain fittings and chains.

New Big Clock for Liverpool.—An agitation is on foot for the erection of a fine clock in Lime-street, Liverpool. As yet nothing definite, we believe, has been decided, but it will probably be worth he while of manufacturers to keep an eye upon the district in the vent of a speedy formation of a local committee.

International Photographic Exhibition.—The Triennial International Exhibition of photographs, aparatus, appliances, and processes will be held in the Bristol Academy of Arts Galleries from December 18th, 1893, to January 22nd, 1894. A number of medals will be offered for competition.

The Queensland Gold Output.—A most complete report from the Mines Department of Queensland has just lately been issued, in which things look most hopeful, especially for the future of Charters Towers. The report shows the output of gold in the colony for the last year to have been 615,558oz., an increase of 39,000z. on the previous year. The total silver produced was 224,810oz., valued at £36,436; and the tin raised was 2,389 tons, valued at £123,000.

Color Blindness.—The late applications for certificates for captains and mates, according to the Board of Trade returns, show that out of 5,541 candidates examined, about 5 per cent. were unable to pass in distinguishing colors. Eighty described green as red, others pronounced it as pink, blue, or yellow, although a large quantity were very fond of green; twenty-seven called drab by that name; and seventeen gave the same appellation to pink.

Watch Smuggling.—It is claimed that 22,000 watches valued at about 2,000,000frs. have been got into France during the last six months without paying duty. Every effort has been put forth to stop this contraband trade, and some remarkable cases have been discovered. Recently the authorities were not satisfied with a quantity of Swiss milk that was being imported in the usual tins, and accordingly had the lot opened, with the result of discovering immense quantities of timesters snugly reposing in the places of condensed milk. Of course the Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Company, whose tins were employed, were not a party to the fraud.

A New Silver Trade Union.—On the 14 ult. a meeting was convened by the London Silver Trades Council at the St. Agatha's Mission Hall, Finsbury-square, for the purpose of forming a society for those engaged in the stick and pipe mounting industry. Mr. J. Eldridge, the president of the Silver Trade Council, who occupied the chair, stated that owing to the lack of organisation amongst the men engaged in the trade wages had been greatly reduced. This was partly the fault of the men themselves and partly that of the employers, who by their keen competition forced down prices. Mr. W. Steward, who was instructed by the London Trades Council to attend the meeting, said that pipe and stick mounting was artistic work, and required great ability. A long apprenticeship was necessary, and the work was worthy of better wages than were now being paid. That being so, combination was necessary to bring about a better state of affairs. A resolution pledging those present to form a union was passed, and at once carried nto effect.

The Cassiobury Sale.—Recently Messrs. Christie and Co. have sold some important specimens of china, porcelain, clocks, bronzes, etc., from Cassiobury Park, Herts, collected by the fifth Earl of Essex. Several of the miniatures brought extremely high prices, few, if any, realising under three figures, and many of the specimens of china reached four figures. Among the bronzes, Neptune, with a sea horse 20in. high, brought six hundred and five guineas. Pluto with Cerebus, 21in. high, three hundred guineas. A pair of Louis XVI. candelabra with figures of Cupid and Pysche, 39in. high, in bronze, after Clodion, six hundred guineas; while a similar pair brought eleven hundred guineas. A Louis XVI. clock by Le Punt, 28in. high, brought the handsome sum of two thousand four hundred guineas. A Louis XV. candlestick, ormolu, scroll design, standing only 10½in. high, brought no less a sum than three hundred and five guineas. A Louis XIV. clock with Time and Beauty under the enamel dial, 44in. high, brought two hundred and fifty guineas. The 105 items from Cassiobury Park realised just under £25,000.

The French Watch Industry.

THE centenary of watchmaking in France has called forth a very interesting article from Professor Algave, in *Le Temps*. It was reserved, he says, for a Geneva watchmaker named Megevand, a man of extraordinary energy and force of character, to endow Besançon and Montbeliard with the important manufacture which has flourished with such success during the present century in the department of the Doubs. He was a man of great wealth and standing, and in 1793 offered to the French Government the assistance of the worthy children of Tell to form the new industry. Accordingly, eighty skilled Swiss foremen watchmakers settled in Besançon. Special advantages were offered the workmen and exemption from two years' military service. Within a year the horologeric community numbered some 2,500 persons. The vineyard laborers, however, were not so friendly disposed to the new industry, and persecuted the new comers on all sides, got up anti-Protestant crusades, and did all in their power against them; then came the fearful famine, and in spite of a supplementary subsidy from the Government, the resources of the enterprise were strained to the utmost. Poor Megevand, after dragging out a wretched existence in the town which he had so helped to enrich, was killed by a stray shot from the Austrian camp in 1814, by which time the industry had nearly doubled the population of the place. His partner and countryman, Trott, was reduced to beggary.

But these were dreadful times in France. What with changes of forms of government, beheading of kings and queens, wars abroad, and revolutions at home, the formation and breaking up of empires, it is a wonder how the new industry survived it all. Nevertheless, Megevand, before that demon-guided shot put a period to his existence, had completed plans for making watches by machinery, which would probably have been carried out, as they were by the Americans seventy years afterwards, had it not been for the administrative injustice of ironsided Napoleon. Since the introduction of the art into Besançon the population has risen from 15,000 to 50,000 inhabitants. Speaking of the Besançon School and the exhibits at the great French Exhibition, Julien Tripplin observes :—"Besançon's exhibit was complete from a watchmaker's point of view, and was well appreciated by those best able to judge. The school was founded in 1861, and is now supported solely by the city. Being without special influence at headquarters it has not yet received those marks of Government favor which have been bestowed on the other two French schools, but great efforts are now being made in order to obtain better recognition. It has up to the present, irrespective of those still at school, turned out 597 able students. This school, which has always been present at every exhibition, has graduated well; beginning at first by obtaining a bronze medal, it ended last year (Paris, 1889) in securing the Grand Prize." Nor is this great success to be wondered at when one sees the excellence of the programme of the most complete course of education adopted by this school, which is given in full by Mr. Tripplin in that interesting and indeed invaluable little work, *Watchmaking and Clockmaking in 1893*.

Business Change.—T. A. G. Mascall has bought the old established business of John Liddle, Linthorp-road, Middlesborough. In future both businesses will be carried on at 112, Linthorp-road.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

To the Editor of the WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, SILVERSMITH, AND OPTICIAN.

Selecting a Mainspring by its Weight.

SIR,—After twenty years' experience in horology, I imagine I have made several discoveries in connection with the trade that may be useful, and I voluntarily give them for what they are worth, but I have found the one I am about to describe as most accurate, saving a considerable deal of time and ensuring perfection in the selection of a mainspring's proper length, a difficulty experienced by a good many workmen. Seeing one of my workmen putting a mainspring into a barrel and then removing it a second time, I asked, "Have you no means of ascertaining the proper length of a mainspring without that tentative process?" He said, "None that I know of." Having my assay balance at hand, the idea struck me that a spring would do of a corresponding weight to the old one, always supposing the old one to be the original spring, or correct as to width and thickness. I tried it with successful results, and have never known it to fail, after adopting the plan for at least fifteen years. The idea may be as old as the hills, but I have never known any watchmaker adopting it but myself.—I am, yours truly, W. A. MAPPIN, Waltham Watch Repairing Depot, York, Western Australia.

[We are always glad to welcome correspondence, especially from the other side of the world. Of course we do not necessarily endorse everything we insert. In the philosophical side of life perhaps coincidences *do* most trouble us; but the practical watchmaker finds more than one enemy to encounter. To him there is infinitely more than gravitation, and elasticity is even more than the subtle force first demonstrated by Newton. We think it would indeed be a very *delicate* assay balance that would detect the difference of elasticity in two pieces of steel of the same weight. This fact is beautifully illustrated in a table case on the south-east of the Musuem of Practical Geology, Jermyn-street.—ED.]

A Bankrupt's Assertion.

SIR,—In the report *re Gilpin and Co.'s* affairs, which appears in your August issue, I find a statement made by the bankrupt to the effect that I am responsible for his failure in Sheffield. I beg to say that that statement is entirely without foundation and that I did not contribute in the slightest degree to his bankruptcy. I wish to say also that the charge of unsteadiness, or extravagance, implied rather than contained in that statement, is a cruel slander, as neither at that time nor at any other period of my life, can such a charge be sustained against me. I have written to the Official Receiver at Birmingham, explaining my position and correcting the misstatement, but I am afraid my information is too late to be of any service to me, hence my appeal to you. I shall esteem it a favor if you will kindly give publicity to my denial of the statement so far as it concerns me.—Yours respectfully, W. CRAPPER, 111, Queen's-street, Sheffield.

Answers to Correspondents.

"H. G.," Church.—We hope to give a series of articles before very long on the subject of optics. The course we adopt is to give the information most asked for; we even abandoned a set of articles on determinative gemmology because we had such a number of applications for a series on ticket writing.

J. MANGAN.—The particulars of the Horological Certificate have been duly forwarded to you.

"J. T. S.," Chatham, "N. C.," Richmond.—We will endeavor to send you the information you require.

"J. F.," Manchester.—We certainly should give the preference to Messrs. P. and A. Guye, although perhaps we are a little prejudiced in their favor, but that prejudice can only arise from having so many thousands of their watches through our hands, the sort of thing that would usually have the reverse effect. The other firm is an excellent one, about which we would rather say nothing unless to ask, *are* they manufacturers?

MR. WALTER BURTON has commenced business at 39, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

THE old established business which has been carried on for many years in Saville street by the late Mr. Edwin Raw has been removed to Prospect-street, Hull.

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Any of the below-mentioned works can be had by subscribers from the Offices of the Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith at the prices stated. Where the price is below 5s. three stamps should be added to cover postage; books over 5s. in value are sent post-free. Remittance should be made by postal order payable to Heywood and Company (Limited), 68, Fleet Street, E.C.

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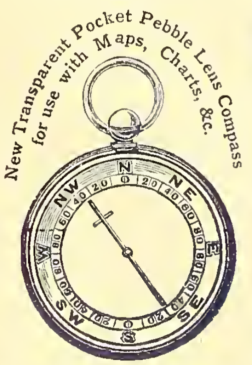
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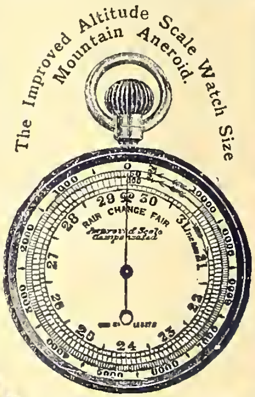
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A VERY pretty article has been selling for the last few months in the shape of a clock, aneroid, and thermometer. The clock is about half the size of an ordinary carriage time-piece, in a square or flat fluted silver case, the aneroid and thermometer forming wings which can either be opened at any angle, or closed so as to form a triangle.

ENTRE NOUS
HARPOCRATES.

By the Editor.

THE OPENING SESSION OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

OCTOBER is always regarded as the month in which technical education sessions open. That superlative institution known as the evening class—a scheme to which we were strangers in our young days—offers an easy means for all those who are desirous of learning the principles upon which their craft is based. In days gone by this or that man got, or imagined he got, a little tit-bit of information about his trade, which he religiously guarded. Apprentices were kept at the lowest kind of work for four or five years, and then often turned out into the world without ever being taught anything of the principles upon which their craft is based. It is also well to remember that only two or three decades ago, nine and even ten o'clock was the usual closing hour for shops, so that an apprentice or an assistant would have had little chance of acquiring technical knowledge, even if he had had the wish. Now this is all altered. He who runs may learn; there is no excuse for ignorance at the present time. The City Companies have done excellent work in providing and assisting technical instruction, and all round opportunities are offered which ought to be gladly accepted by everyone in the trade. The Horological Institute classes provided both for town and country students should receive a far greater share of patronage than they do. Every salesman before he attempts to sell a watch ought to at least understand the elements of its construction, otherwise it is impossible for him to do justice either to the customer or to his employer. The Polytechnic Institution opens with a very varied programme, the watchmaking and allied classes being continued. Mr. Stapelton also carries on his goldsmiths' classes, in which he was so exceptionally successful last year. As our readers are aware, Mr. Stapelton throws not only his lore, but his life into his work, and this will probably account for the obvious feeling between himself and his students. There are also allied classes held at this Institution of great value to the trade. The editor is extremely sorry that the bad state of his health will not allow him to undertake the complete course of gemmology lessons which he had hoped to have been able to give, and takes this opportunity of thanking many readers of the journal and old students for their continued inquiries after his welfare, and further assures them that nothing but absolute medical prohibition would have deterred him from continuing the work of his life's desire.

HOROLOGY AT THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

WHEN at the commencement of the year we unfavorably contrasted the small part of scientific proceedings of to-day devoted to horology, compared with a few generations ago, we did not expect that '93 would mark such a great turning point as it has. In connection with the Prescot Festivities we had one of the greatest of living physicists giving the palm of ingenuity to the time-measuring science, and calling public attention to the marvels of horology. We had Royalty also taking up the strain, and watchmaking in England was more written about, spoken about, and thought about during the succeeding month than it probably had been for generations. So much so that the first scientific society holding its annual gathering near Prescot considered that the accomplishments of the Lancashire watch factory were one of the sights they ought to see. Next comes the annual gathering of the British Association, whose object is to bring together, and more or less popularise, the latest scientific discoveries, and to describe the various processes that have been devised to meet the many wants of life in its varied phases. And here again we have the claims of the modern watch manufacturer placed beside the great triumphs of engineering, the achievements of the laboratory, and the discoveries of the observatory. Horology is elevated to its rightful position amongst the foremost mechanical achievements, and its claims fully substantiated by the recognition that it has overcome what only a very short time ago looked like insuperable difficulties. We feel that Mr. T. P. Hewitt is to be congratulated on the lines he adopted for his paper. Of course the evolution of the modern watch could not be given in the allotted twenty minutes, nor indeed would such a subject have been fitting for the occasion. Mr. Hewitt recognised this, and immediately plunged into a description of some of the difficulties which beset the manufacturer of timekeepers in large quantities; and then explained the various ingenious methods by which these difficulties had been overcome. We have since heard from both engineers and mathematicians that the paper was highly appreciated in the section. It will also do something to reinstate watchmaking as an English industry *par excellence.* Of course we have never lost our position for absolute *fine* work, but we have painfully neglected the manufacturing of ordinary and lower class watches by machine assistance. If, however, the latter branch is shown to be a "live" one, and its claims kept before the public in the proper manner, there will probably be found enterprise enough in investors to embark in new undertakings which will again carry us ahead of foreign competitors.

DECEPTIVE TICKETS.

A CASE came before the Marlborough-street Police-court on the 13th ult. which brings us face to face with a system of marking up goods which can have no other possible object than to deceive the public, and thus defraud it. From whatever point one regards the attaching of a metal albert upon a watch, and marking them up "Gold Watch AND Chain," one can see nothing but an ingenious attempt to make a person believe in the recognised English of the ticket, and that the conjunction "and" carries over the adjective to the chain. Thus if we were speaking of this man Lipman and his wife as being a German Jew and Jewess, the nationality of the latter would be accepted by all who read the description. We have unfortunately known numerous instances where people have bought things thus marked up under the idea they were gold, and have not discovered the deception until after they had parted with their money. We recently heard of a case in which a man bought a watch marked up "Gold cased American lever," under the full belief that the cases were solid gold. We pointed out at the formation of the Trade Protection Society that if these were the cases with which they intended to deal, they would not have to travel far from their offices to make a commencement. It is a disgrace both to the trade, and the commercial morality of the country, that such a system should be allowed. The facts of the police-court case are these. A clergyman passing along Oxford-street saw in the window of a Mr. Lipman (not H. Lipman of No. 92) a ticket bearing the legend "Gold watch and chain, price £1 11s. 6d." Thinking them very cheap, he stepped in to make a purchase; but before closing the bargain, he desired that the man of gold should give a written guarantee as to the quality of the articles. The jeweler was then obliged to admit the chain was not gold! Naturally the clergyman asked what he meant by marking the articles up in the manner he had; whereupon the man of metal became a man of bad expressions and words. Seeing his customer in broadcloth, he threatened to kick him out of the place. This time, however, he had made a mistake in his man! "Look here," said the old University athlete, "I don't want to take advantage of you, but if you lay a finger on me I will 'trim' you round the shop. You may take some parsons to be old women, but you are in the wrong box this time." We can only feel that it was a great pity the shopkeeper did not get a sound thrashing. However, the clergyman resorted to the aid of the law. On the arrival of a policeman the bad language was again resorted to. The magistrate fined the jeweler 10s. and costs. Let us hope it will teach Lipman and like persons the lesson that, in trying to deceive others, they may themselves be deceived.

AMATEUR SIGHT-TESTING, AND SIGHT-INJURING.

WE must confess the first time we saw "fortune-telling" added to the penny-in-the-slot machines standing at a railway terminus, with numerous foreigners on the platform, we could not help feeling extremely humiliated at the thought of the estimation in which we should be held as a nation in the mind of the spectators. Our only solace was to regard these innovations as one does any swindle when it first starts, the illegality of which is so obvious that one has not to wait long before the strong arm of the law comes down upon it, and wipes it out of existence. The editor of *Truth* evidently has been struck with the same idea; he says:—

> "The suggestion has been made to me that if itinerant fortune-tellers are to be dealt with by fine and imprisonment, the owners of the automatic machines engaged in the same line of business ought to be similarly dealt with. I am bound to say that this seems to me unanswerable logic. If it be illegal for an individual to retail fortunes by word of mouth, it should be illegal for a company to retail them by means of a 'penny-in-the-slot' contrivance. This is a matter which the Anti-Gambling League ought to take up without loss of time."

But these public catch-pennies did not stop here. It is bad enough to take the money out of one's pocket and give nothing in return. But in the case of the sight-testing machines, not only is money taken out of the pocket

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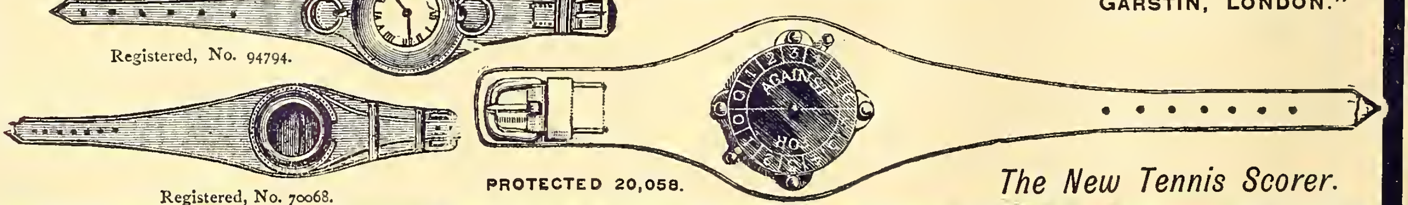

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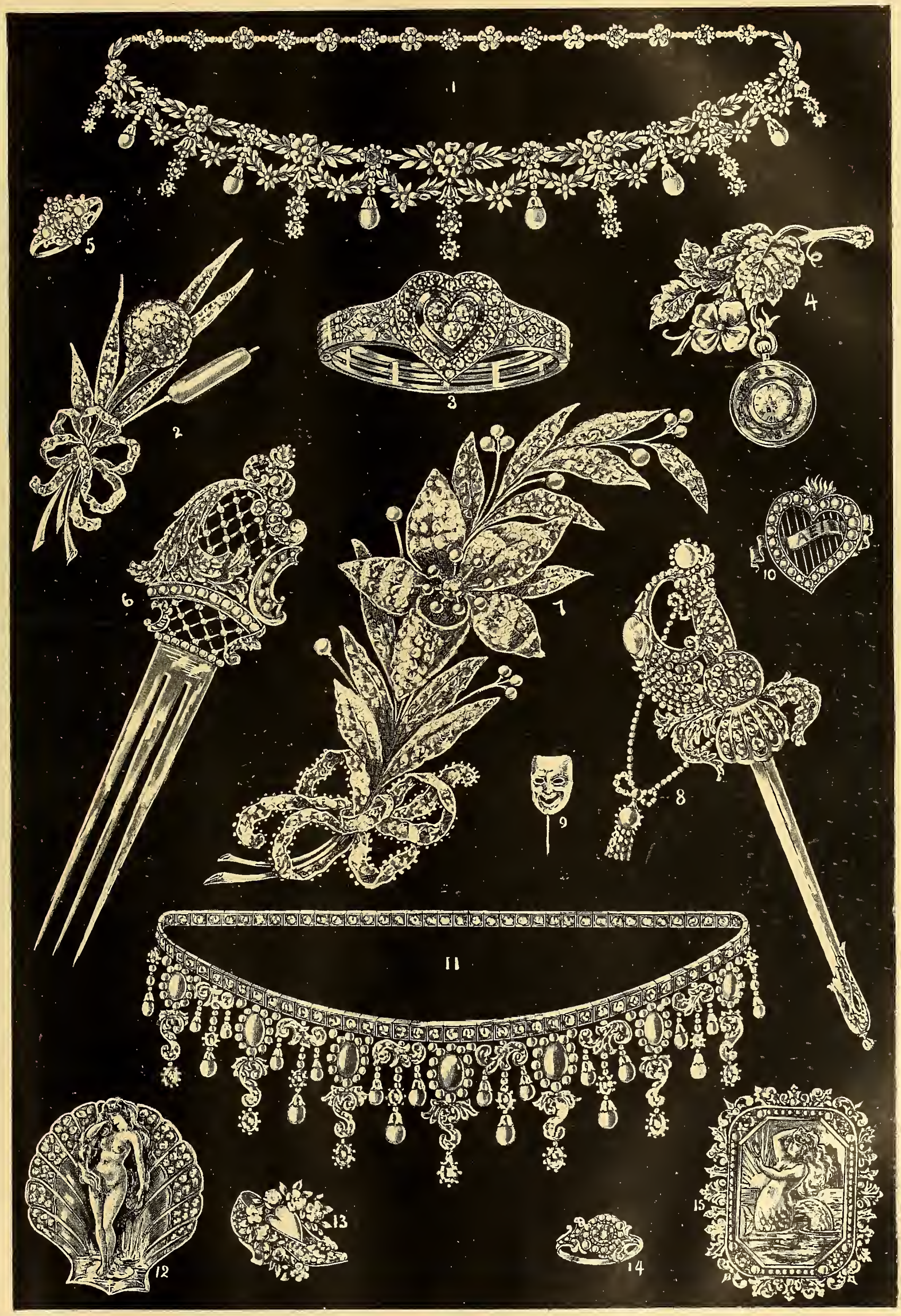
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of the unwary but an instrument of self-destruction is put into their hands which none but a qualified optician ought to wield. However, the public believe in the protecting fatherhood of the laws of the country, and consider "they must be right or they would not be allowed," and so they are inveigled into the delicate operation of amateur sight-testing, without the necessary knowledge or appliances: with the result that they send their half-crowns for the pairs of spectacles (which, by-the-bye, are described in terms calculated to throw discredit on necessarily expensive aids to vision, thus doing opticians an injustice, if not an injury), which are not only non-corrective to their defective vision, but inflict upon what has often been called "God's greatest gift to man" an injury from the ill effects of which the eyes never recover. Seeing these inefficient amateur sight-testers are fraught with such ill effects, there can be but one opinion as to the course the law ought to take in the matter. We also think that it is the duty of all opticians who are able, from a knowledge of their profession, to show the serious consequences which may arise from the use of these machines, to combine and take action against them. We should be glad to render any assistance.

OUR SPECIAL PLATE.

No. 1. One of the fashionable enamel necklets, which now appear in the ascendency. The colors are transparent cherry-red for the flowers; transparent graduated greens for the leaves; through the enamel can be seen the chased surface of the gold. Greys and drabs, with a moderate quantity of white, are also introduced with beneficial effect, as they tone down what might otherwise be somewhat hard colors. The gems are usually colored sapphires, topazes, and peridots. The latter look exceedingly nice with well chosen enamels. The pendant drops are pear-shaped pearls.

No. 2. Bulrush spray and tie ornament; suitable for spray, brooch, or head ornament. The leaves could be in emeralds and the tie in diamonds; the bulrush in either dark brown rough enamel, or pavè set small pearls.

No. 3. With the revival of wearing portraits, miniature bracelets are once more being inquired for. The design shows one where the portrait is concealed in the box, the centre of which opens in the front. The shoulders and heart are in gems; the centre can be either figured transparent enamel or a trefoil of gems.

No. 4. Reversible brooch, head ornament, or watch holder. This method of wearing the watch is still fashionable: the design can be executed either in diamond work or pearl and enamel; with the last it forms a very effective and not at all expensive article. It is also a good strong pattern, and eminently suited for a watch-brooch.

No. 5. Cluster ring in diamonds and colored gems, with or without the addition of pearls.

No. 6. Hair-pin in diamonds and pearls. Transparent enamels, so much in vogue in the time of this style of ornament, can also be introduced.

No. 7. Convertible orchid spray in diamonds and colored stones; the latter being introduced into the flower. The spray is detachable behind the second pair of leaves, and again behind the flower; the latter also takes off, so as to be worn in the hair, and the other two portions become brooches. Pearls are employed for the buds.

No. 8. Court sword hair pin, with detachable spring point. The gems should be diamonds for the most part, but colored stones could also be introduced. The large gem in the pommel is supposed to be a pearl, the other large gem should be a cabochon ruby or sapphire. The collets which form the chain for the tassel should hang free.

No. 9. Mask pin in white enamel.

No. 10. New engagement brooch, "In heart-strings entwined." The heart is in diamonds or pearls, and the strings in wire similar to those of a harp, and the ribbon is entwined between them. The ribbon may be of enamel or gold, and upon it, in diamonds or enamel, the initials of the donor, or some poesy expression. It thus becomes a capital idea for troth of engagement.

No. 11. Pearl and diamond convertible tiara-necklet, designed for large bouton and drop pearls. Sapphires or other colored stones could replace the large pearls, and briolets the drops. There are two snaps so as to allow the necklace being used as a tiara. There is also supplied a supplementary piece of chain, which will then convert the back piece to a necklace. A second frame could also be supplied with which the back piece could be made to subtend the tiara, thereby making it a still more imposing article.

No. 12. Brooch, "The Birth of Venus," in enamel pearl shell, and pearls or diamonds, or graduated blue sapphires. The figure should be in flesh color enamel.

No. 13. New bridesmaid's brooch. "Lucky" chrysoprase heart, in "lucky" slipper, with wreath of flowers. The heart is of chrysoprase, the wreath enamelled in colors, and the slipper either gold, or gold and enamel, or pearls.

No. 14. Cluster ring in sapphire and diamonds.

No. 15. Mermaid brooch in opal cameo and diamond border.

MARKETS.

Board of Trade Returns.

Imports.—The clocks and parts imported during August amounted to £33,375, as compared with £34,574 for the same month last year. The watches and parts imported during August reached £58,164, being £4,807 less than the corresponding month last year; but £937 more than August, 1891.

Exports.—The plated and gilt wares shipped during August amounted to £26,200, as compared with £27,739 in the corresponding month of last year.

Diamonds.

London, September 28th.—The predicted fall in diamonds has not come off, and although many still hold that a fall is imminent because prices cannot be maintained, large buyers hold out no hopes of a lowering of prices. Many people a month or so ago were regarding the action of Messrs. Barnato in buying a million's worth of diamonds as simply madness, asserting that it would be many months, or perhaps years, before they were got rid of. Instead of this, however, the big diamond firm has not only sent the adamantine crystals into the world, but has bought up all the remainder of the De Beers stock. I fear, from a careful estimation, that, despite the badness of trade and the difficulty with which business is now done, a fall of any extent in the now almost prohibitive prices is not likely to occur soon enough to affect the Christmas trade. Here and there one sees the pinch of the times and parcels offered by individuals at a rather lower price for cash, but still on the whole prices are fully maintained, and this quite as much, or even more, for good colored stones.

Amsterdam, September 25th.—There is a slight improvement to report in the sale of polished and rough diamonds, though sales are but very limited still. Existing as we do under the great depression of the last three months, we must be thankful for small mercies. There is but very little finished stock on the market, as most of the manufacturers have abstained from working lately, so that even little sales are appreciated, and cause a new investment in *rough*, thus giving work for the polishers. Several mills which were idle for the last two months have started to work again, with a good many hands. The absence of American orders, through the crisis in the United States, is much felt here. August and September are generally famous months for the diamond trade with the Americans, and citizens come here in vast numbers to make their purchases personally. Upon the approach of the winter season expectations in Europe are held out for a quick and steady improvement in all sorts of affairs, in which diamonds, no doubt, will share.

PARIS, SEPTEMBER 25TH.—The export business in diamonds is not yet sufficiently awakened out of its summer sleep; still it must be admitted that South America, notwithstanding its unsettled state, gives again signs of life by a few orders coming in from that country. Luckily some local business has recently turned up. We live here on politics and fêtes. There is the Russian fleet, which will visit us with a great staff of officers and a good many ladies. Then there will be the great annual races at the beginning of next month, with the Grand Prix de Paris of 100,000fr. These two events are making a great stir in the world of fashion. The ladies here and in the Southern seaports are all absorbed in preparation of their toilets, in which diamonds form a great part, which brings a little life to the diamond business in general.

Silver.

DESPITE the fierce battle in America over the silver question, and the uncertainty of the Sherman Act, silver only suffered gentle undulations all through the month. The general tendency, however, has been downwards. Opening at 34½d., it fell gently during the first week to 33⅞d., when a less supply on the market caused a slight turn, and for a few days a rise ensued, which carried it up to opening price. Since then it has gradually sunk back to 33⅞d., the price on the 28th being 34⅛d.

Tin.

THERE has been a gradual improvement in the tin market all through the month. Commencing at £78 12s. 6d., in three weeks it passed £81: since then it has fallen below £80.

Copper.

THE red metal has also shown improvement: opening at £41 12s. 6d., in ten days it reached £43: next day it fell 2s. 6d. into the forty-two's, where it has remained, touching as low as 8s. 9d. Upon going to press a slight elevation was visible.

Spelter.

THE pounds figure of this metal has not changed during the month, nor have the shillings reached their teens. It is now quoted at £17 5s.

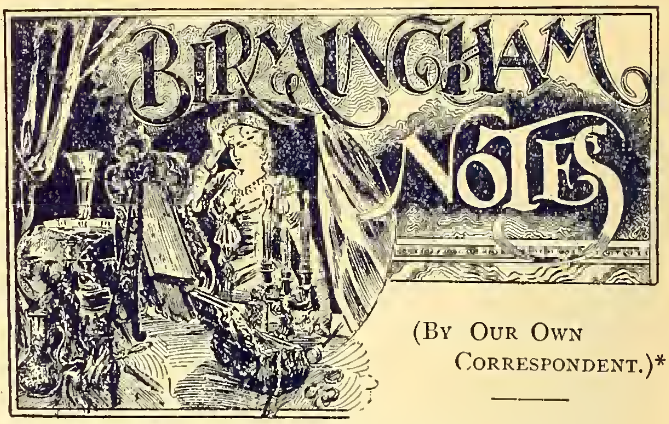
Mercury.

QUICKSILVER has been very steady. During the first half of the month it was at £6 7s. 6d., and rising half-a crown the other half.

Mother-o'-Pearl.

MACASSAR medium to bold are quoted at £8 to £9 10s. Manilla, similar grades, £7 17s. 6d. to £8 12s. 6d. Black-edged (Banda), 38s. to 47s. Compared with 1892 these prices are much lower.

Fifteenth Meridian Time for Italy.—On November 1st the railways throughout Italy will adopt the mean solar time of the fifteenth meridian east of Greenwich, or what is known as Middle-European time. This time is eleven minutes fast of mean solar time of Rome, and will be reckoned from midnight to midnight. When once the time is adopted by the railways, it may be anticipated that it will become general throughout the Kingdom.



(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)*

IT is pleasant to be able to record a distinct improvement in business for the past month. Certainly we are still very far from being "rushed," but the important fact is that the end of the dead season has been passed, and the tide of autumn business has set in. With the resumption of work by the miners we shall see a big effort made in all the staple trades to make up for lost time, and it cannot be doubted for a moment that the various fancy trades will share in the revival. Stocks have been kept so very low that both factors and shopkeepers will need some good purchases in order to equip themselves for the coming season.

THE theft of a parcel of gold rings belonging to Messrs. Mayall Bros, of Unett-street, from a Manchester railway station is a practical comment on my remark last month as to the insurance of rail parcels. To an outsider it is a matter of astonishment how a porter can succeed in abstracting a quantity of parcels without detection. It looks as if the railway officials took no care whatever of uninsured parcels. But why should threepence be the minimum charge for insurance of parcels? A scheme by which a parcel could be insured up to £15 for twopence would be immensely popular. Lots of parcels go at the owner's risk simply because threepence is too heavy a tax on a parcel worth, say, £8 or £10. Of course it isn't a question of one threepence or half a dozen; in the case of firms who send dozens of parcels away every week the payments for insurance at threepence each would represent a very important sum annually, so that they prefer to take the whole risk where the value does not exceed £25. Perhaps some of our leading railway companies will look into the question and see what they can do!

A LOCAL correspondent at the Chicago Exhibition notes that many leading Birmingham industries (including jewelry and watches) are totally unrepresented. Those who are acquainted with the many fruitless efforts which have been made to cultivate an American trade in jewelry will not be at all surprised at the fact. Of course, the enormous import duty is an insurmountable barrier to business in gold and silver wares. Also, with the exception of a few firms, the bulk of the patterns made in the States are nothing but reproductions of English fashions, some of them many years old, and the traveller who offered them in the home market to-day would speedily be bowed out.

MY forecast as to the effects of the continued tightness of money and general depression of trade has soon received emphatic confirmation by the suspension of Messrs. W. Spencer and Sons, Messrs. Alfred Appleby and Co., and Messrs. Sloane and Carter. Messrs. W. Spencer and Sons offer a composition of 12s. 6d. in the £, with a prospect of being able to pay the remaining 7s. 6d. should circumstances

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

W. M. GRAY & Co.

DIAMONDS

DIAMOND & PEARL NECKLETS,
PEARLS & HALF PEARLS
TURQUOISE,
SAPPHIRES,
EMERALDS,
RUBIES,
OPALS,
&c.,
&c.,
&c.

Telegraphic Address,
"PYROGENIC," London.

ALL KINDS OF
PRECIOUS STONES
RE-CUT AND CUT TO MATCH.

SPECIMEN GEMS PURCHASED.

7, HATTON GARDEN, LONDON.

GRIMSHAW & BAXTER,
33 & 35, GOSWELL ROAD, LONDON.

Call and Inspect our Stock of Sans Pareil Lathes, *the New Patented Watchmakers' Lathe by Boley. The Best and most useful Lathe now on the Market.*

Illustrated Price List Free on Application. Thirty Combinations in Stock to select from.

SOLE WHOLESALE AGENTS FOR
EZRA KELLEY'S CHRONOMETER, WATCH & CLOCK OILS.
WHOLESALE & FOR EXPORTATION. *ESTABLISHED 1800.*

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO THE TRADE.

BRONZES, CLOCKS, CANDELABRAS, DIALS, &c.,
Repaired, parts made, and renovated equal to new; all work done in the same process as in Paris. Repairs in general, Bronzing, Gilding, Plating, Brassing, and Lacquering in all its branches. Estimates submitted for Town and Country Stock Work. Carriage Clocks polished and matt gilt.

Every Description of ELECTRO-PLATED WARE Replated or Gilt as New. Price Lists free on Application.

STATUARY AND INSCRIPTIONS RENOVATED BY CONTRACT.—Church Lights, Gasaliers, Electric and Lamp Fitting Brackets, Book Rests, Communion Plate, &c., re-lacquered, gilt, or plated. Experienced men sent for removing and fixing same. Composition Bronzes can be made by our Colours to look equal to real Works of Art. The New French Florentine, Barbédienne, Egyptian Green, Vert Antique, and Empire Bronzes. Specialities.

Buhl Work Repaired and Restored equal to New. Established London and Paris, 1873.

JOHN WILKINS & Co.,
11, ST. JOHN STREET ROAD, CLERKENWELL.
Steam Polishing, Plating & Gilding Works:—2 & 4, Gloucester Street (in the rear).

Spectacles and Eyeglasses
IN ALL METALS.
And for all kinds of OPTICAL GOODS buy from the Makers,

BOTWRIGHT & GREY

(Late A. H. BOTWRIGHT),
Manufacturing Opticians,
Wholesale and for Exportation only,
CLERKENWELL, LONDON, E.C.

REPAIRS *and* ODD ORDERS *received by post are executed and returned same day as received.*

A LARGE AND WELL-ASSORTED STOCK, OF WHICH WE INVITE THE INSPECTION OF HOME AND EXPORT BUYERS.

MASONIC WORK. BEST WORKMANSHIP.

BROOCHES, EARRINGS,
BADGES, BRACELETS,
LINKS, PINS.

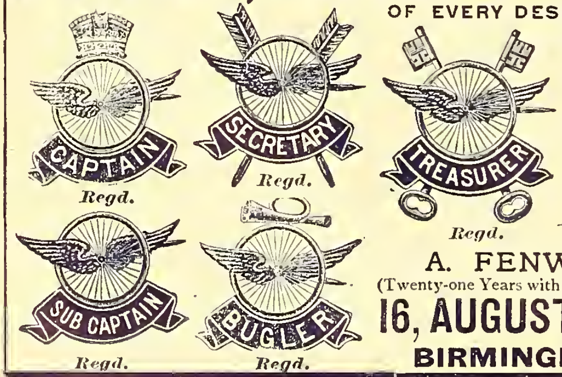
J. H. STARLING,

MANUFACTURING JEWELER,
7, Augusta Street, Birmingham.

SILVER AND PLATED WARE
EQUAL TO NEW ON SHORTEST NOTICE.
REPAIRS:—SPECIAL ATTENTION.

Prices will be found the Lowest for Quality & Style.
DESIGNS SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL ON PRESENTATION OF BUSINESS CARD.

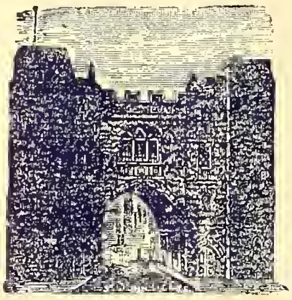
A. FENWICK, MANUFACTURER OF **MEDALS & BADGES**
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION



DIE AND SEAL ENGRAVING.
Rings, &c., for Sealing.

CARAT & INITIAL PUNCHES,
Cheques, Labels, &c.

A. FENWICK
(Twenty-one Years with Mr. J. Moore),
16, AUGUSTA ST.,
BIRMINGHAM.



St. John's Works,
92, CLERKENWELL ROAD,
London, E.C.

T. T. STURTEVANT,

COLD, SILVER AND NICKEL PLATER, ELECTRO-PLATE MANUFACTURER.

SEND FOR
PRICE LIST FOR
Re-plating Spoons, Forks, Tea and Coffee Services, Salvers, Dishes and Covers, Cruet Stands, &c., &c.

take a favorable turn with them. A good deal of sympathy will be felt for the firm by all who know them. The senior partner is one of the oldest members of the trade, and his kindly manner has also made him very popular with all who had dealings with him. I gather that the present situation is partly attributable to the disastrous *cause célèbre* which took place a few years back and has continued to hamper the present partners ever since. I sincerely hope that the trade of the forthcoming season will prove good enough to enable the firm to extricate themselves from their present unfortunate position.

The suspension of Messrs. Appleby was a decided surprise to everyone, as they have undoubtedly done a big turnover and made a lot of money, but apparently they have succeeded in getting their capital locked up in stock and book debts. Quite recently efforts have been made to convert the business into a limited liability company, but without success. Failing in this the pressure of affairs compelled the firm to meet their creditors without delay. I understand that two schemes have been offered for consideration—viz., that the creditors should combine to carry on the business as a limited company, or, failing that, that they should accept bills for the full amount of their claims, maturing at intervals spread over a period of eighteen months. I believe there is no doubt as to the ability of the firm to carry out the latter arrangement. The assets show 35s. or 40s. in the £ after the most careful exclusion of doubtful debts, plant, etc. Under these circumstances it would seem impolitic on the part of the creditors to do anything calculated to bring about a forced realisation, which could only result in loss to all concerned. No doubt, considering the state of trade, the firm will have a tough job to clear themselves, but the prospect is favorable, and I hope to be able to record their success in some future note.

The failure of the old-established house of Sloane and Carter, which has been carried on for the last few years by Messrs. Godfrey and Knibbs, can scarcely have been a matter of surprise to anyone who has had an insight into the under-currents of the local trade. One rather wonders at the efforts which have been made to keep the business going when the finale has been almost a mathematical certainty for months past. From what I hear the present firm have been considerably hampered by the terms on which they acquired the business. These, although doubtless fair enough at the outset, have become under the ever-varying conditions of trade a crushing burden to them, and it is a pity for the creditors that this important fact was not recognised and acted upon long ago. Commercially nothing is worse than patching up a sinking ship. Dozens of cases are on record to prove that it is better for all concerned to wind up a shaky concern with the least delay possible. By this method the creditors lose less and the firm recommences business with such a modicum of prestige as may attach to the payment of a good dividend. In the case in question the creditors are to receive a dividend of 7s. 6d. in the £, and it can scarcely be doubted that this would have been much larger had the inevitable been accepted without hesitation months ago.

I suppose the Official Receiver is legally compelled to go on with the Gilpin prosecution, but I don't see the use of so doing myself. Such prosecutions simply put money into the pockets of the lawyers and mean so much less dividend for the poor creditors, many of whom can ill afford to lose it. It is all very well to argue, as many do, that a prosecution deters future would-be offenders against the Bankruptcy Act, but this we know is not the case. It is the *punishment* which deters, and past experience ought to teach us that an adequate sentence is never passed in these cases. It is a matter of common knowledge that the most bare-faced and gigantic frauds, which conducted in other ways would land the perpetrator in a long term of penal servitude, can be managed with impunity under the friendly ægis of commerce. Don't imagine that I would urge a severe sentence in the case I have mentioned, or that I wish to extenuate the gravity of the offence if proved, but the point is this—a bankrupt who fails to compound with his creditors and has to seek the shelter of the Act is often condemned for offences which sink into insignificance beside those committed by the man who has sheltered himself behind a composition.

As we go to press I hear that Mr. Frederick J. Carter, trading as F. Carter and Co., at 89, Vyse-street, has called his creditors to a meeting for the 29th with a view to laying before them a statement disclosing his financial position.

The official list of bankruptcies and compositions by no means represents the whole of the damage to trade caused by the exceptionally bad times. It cannot, of course, take any account of the loss sustained by manufacturers who have been compelled to cut down their production below the necessary minimum and in many cases to cease making anything whatever for a time. I have heard of men going two or three weeks together without earning a penny at the board, and we can scarcely conceive the hardship this must mean to many families, for owing to the extremely low rate of wages which has prevailed during the last two or three years, few, if any, workmen are able to lay up provision for bad times. Then again, we have to reckon with the havoc effected among out-workers and small makers. Many of these have been compelled to work on their own account owing to poor pay and slackness of work in their employers' shops, and being in most cases without any capital, have to depend entirely on the current demand from week-end to week-end for their subsistence. Of course this element has been practically non-existent during the past few months, and if we could print a correct estimate of the numbers of this class of maker who have thus been forced to seek employment in some other trade or to emigrate, I venture to think it would cause a good deal of comment. This, however, is an impossibility. The number of these free-lances of the jewelry trade is so great, and their locality so obscure, that practically little is known of them. So it happens that their small signs, even when visible from the street, which is not the case with the great majority, appear and disappear unnoticed and unrecorded.

Yet the influence of these men on the trade is anything but insignificant or uncertain. Untrained in the commercial intricacies of discounts and selling prices, and equally ignorant of the peculiarities of their customers, they fall ready victims to the wiles of some unscrupulous factors, who in turn use them as a lever to reduce the prices of the legitimate manufacturer. Thus it comes about that in the greater number of cases they injure not only themselves but also the very men who, without their competition, might be able to find them remunerative employment.

It must be candidly admitted, however, that the manufacturer himself is far from blameless in this matter. Lots of men who are now making fair incomes first commenced business as a revolt against the unfair cutting down of wages by their employers. This is a most blind policy, which in more than one instance proved fatal to its adopters by driving from their employ men who have shown themselves capable of wresting much of their former masters' business from them. The only remedy seems to consist in a little more mutual concession between employer and employed, so that each may give a little consideration to the interests of the other instead of using to the full any advantage which may fall into their hands.

As I conclude these notes I hear of one or two fresh matters on the *tapis*, but as yet they are not ripe for observation. However, I may be able to speak of them without reserve in our next issue.

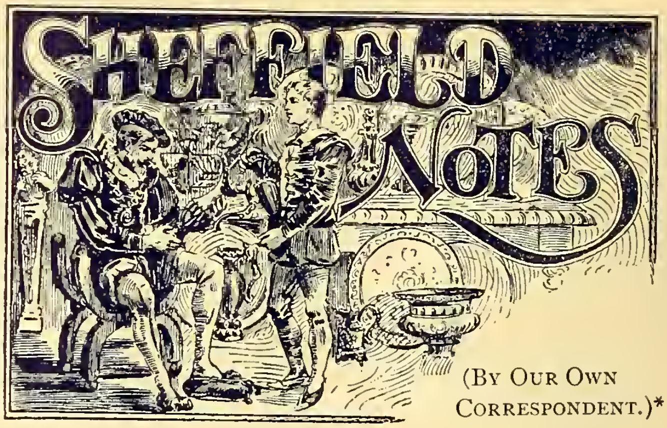
The Jewelers' Association are considering the question of night watchmen for the district, and I believe they have arranged for a supply of officers to give entire attention to the premises occupied by the trade. I don't know whether the Corporation will demand a subsidy from the association for the extra service. It seems that we ought to have as much protection as we need at the expense of the rates, which are extremely high, but on the other hand I have heard the argument advanced that we are only entitled to our proportion of police with other districts. This, of course, is totally inadequate to give entire security to the immense wealth which is nightly locked away in safes of doubtful reliability, and now that the long nights are setting in again no time should be lost in providing as much extra protection as possible.

I hope our local manufacturers are paying special attention to their South African customers. The latest news to hand leaves no doubt as to its being our great market of the immediate future, and even now it is the best and most reliable. The boundless extent of habitable land and the enormous wealth of gold and diamonds must inevitably draw crowds of settlers who will become customers for all kinds of manufactured goods. Many Birmingham jewelers who have ventured there have met with almost unqualified success and write home in loud praise of climate and country and prospects for the future.

Mr. Lionel Blanckensee, of Northwood-street, informs me that he is an exception to the general rule, so far as scarcity of business is concerned. At the present time he is full up with orders and working overtime, and even so finds difficulty in keeping pace with the demand for his goods.

Messrs. W. F. Evans and Sons, Soho Clock Factory, Birmingham, report they are well supplied with orders, and have found that the old engine, which has served them for forty years, is no longer able to give them the power necessary for their growing business. They are now engaged in fitting up a large clock for Jewelopolis, and several other places in England and Wales. Their American trade is also extending in the most encouraging manner, and they are fitting—and have fitted—quite a number of important clocks in the various cities of the States. Cousin Jonathan is speaking very highly of these new acquisitions. He is, in fact, so taken up with eulogisms that he forgets to mention the name of the makers.

Curiosities of Currency.— Our esteemed contemporary, *The Keystone*, in going into matters of currency, now of such burning importance in the United States, remarks: "Few have a just conception of the pernicious effect on general business of hoarding small sums of money in currency. It may surprise many persons, but it is nevertheless true, that if the 64,000,000 inhabitants of the United States hoarded five cents each for one year and four months, not a cent would remain in circulation with which to transact business."



(By Our Own Correspondent.)*

In ordinary times this is about the season when manufacturers look for a revival of trade. The times, however, are abnormal. Doncaster race week, that great turning point of the year, is past, and still the dead season shows no signs of a revival. The silver and electro-plate trade during the summer has been unusually quiet even for the time of year. Old-established firms have closed their doors on Saturdays for some weeks past, a most unprecedented step to take. Of course the coal war does not affect the lighter industries to anything like the extent it does the steel trades, still the high price of engine slack is an important factor in the present state of trade. Many firms have, therefore, been obliged to stop departments that were being run at a loss. At one time, indeed, it appeared as though fuel could not be obtained at any price, and the spectacle of coal being carted to a leading electro-plate manufactory under an escort of mounted police was actually witnessed in the streets of the town. The authorities, however, have taken the alarm and have decided (after some consideration) not to abdicate in favor of King Collier, who, however, in his dealings with the great coal companies seems to have it pretty much his own way. For example, while graciously allowing the companies to dispose of what stocks they have on hand, he has absolutely declined to allow them to introduce Durham coal into the town, and the big companies have quietly acquiesced. There can be no hope of a revival in trade so long as this state of affairs lasts. What we are looking forward to now is the inevitable time when one or other of the parties to this great conflict is brought to its knees. Until then there will be chaos.

For the time the great smoke question is settled. There exists at present no smoke nuisance in Sheffield. The atmosphere is as pure as those sea-side "resorts" where during the summer months Sheffielders delight to congregate. The steam hammers and rolling mills at the east end of the town are silent, and it is only here and there in the centre of the town that an occasional trail of smoke is witnessed from an engine chimney. This would be very pleasant were it not for the accompanying spectacle of artisans idling about, and the unseen accompaniment of families lacking the necessaries of life. Organisations have been set on foot to minister to the more necessitous cases, but it is comparatively little that can be done where the evil is so widespread. The "casualties" in this industrial war will be neither few nor unimportant.

Mr. Isaac Eyre, electro-plate manufacturer, Arundel-street, died very suddenly at his residence, 22, St. Ronan's-road. He was engaged in writing a letter when he fell forward and almost immediately expired. Mr. Eyre carried on the business in Arundel-street formerly carried on under

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, or necessarily any, of the views of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

International Exhibition, 1862

Jurors' Medal.

Established 50 Years.

R. HASWELL & SONS,
49 & 50, Spencer Street, Clerkenwell.

Special Attention to Colonial and Foreign Orders.

MATERIALS.
TOOLS.
WATCHES.

The "Triumph," "Boley's," "Martin" and "Go-ahead" Lathes
With all accessories.

Established 50 Years.

Inventions Exhibition, 1885.

Highest Award, Silver Medal.

Agents for the Non-Magnetic Watch Company (Paillard's Patent) Compensation Balances & Springs.

General Illustrated Price List on application.

Non-Magnetic Compensated Watches, Bracelet Watches, and all varieties.

JOHNSON, WALKER and TOLHURST,

MURIATIC ACID SUPPLIED TO CUSTOMERS FOR TESTING PURPOSES, WITHOUT CHARGE.

Dealers in Antique Plate, Gold and Silver Refiners,
Purchasers of Jewelers', Dentists' and other Sweeps,
80, ALDERSGATE ST., LONDON, E.C.

EXTRA STRONG ACID BOTTLES, PRICE 1/6 EACH.

BULLION DEPARTMENT.

PRICES GIVEN FOR OLD GOLD.

Wedding Rings, 22 carat	76/-
Watch Cases, 22 ,,	70/-
,, 18 ,, Hall marked	60/-
,, 18 ,, (with forged bezels and bows)	50/- to 60/-
Hall marked, 15 ,,	50/-
Modern Coloured Gold	45/- 47/- to 50/-
Gold, 12 carat	40/-
Gold, 10 carat, 35/- ; 9 carat	30/-
Mixed Jewelers' Gold, common	25/- to 27/6
Plated	7/6 to 12/-
Sterling Silver, Market price.	
Watch cases & Thimbles 6d. per oz. less than above.	
Silver Chains	2/- to 3/-

Gold Lace Burnt and Assayed.

PRICES GIVEN FOR PARTING BARS BY ASSAY.

Best Bars, Fine Gold	84/-
,, ,, Silver	3/4
Common Bars, Fine Gold	84/-
,, ,, Silver	3/4
Silver Parting, Fine Gold, less 6 grs.	84/-
,, ,, Silver	3/4

Gold Assay at 3/6 per carat. Fine.
Jewelers' Sweep & Photographic Waste purchased.

All Parcels received in the morning are treated during the day, and cash or an offer is sent the same night, the Parcel being held over for return post.

Messrs. JOHNSON, WALKER AND TOLHURST beg to inform the Trade that they have increased their number of Furnaces for Smelting, and have now much better facilities for reducing all kinds of Limmel, Residues, and Sweeps, and trust they will be favoured with future parcels, which shall receive immediate attention. *January, 1893.*

TERMS.
—:—
MONTHLY ACCOUNTS.

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Wholesale Jewelers, Silversmiths, Watch Manufacturers,
80, ALDERSGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

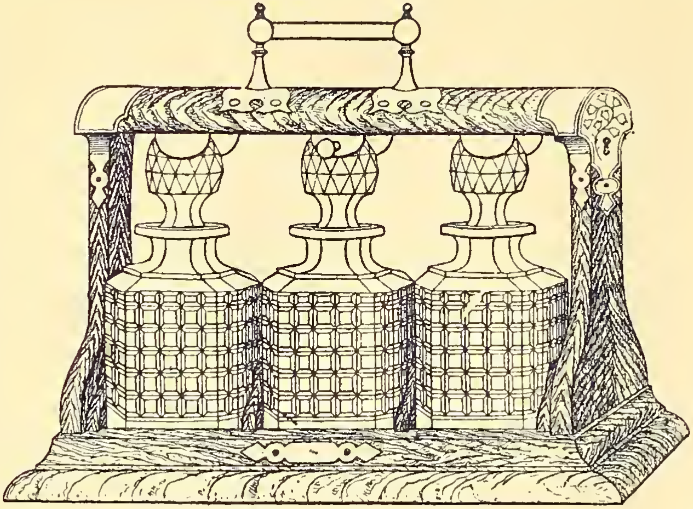
PRECIOUS STONES.
Diamonds, Sapphires, Emeralds, Pearls, Rubies, Cats' Eyes, &c., at per Carat.

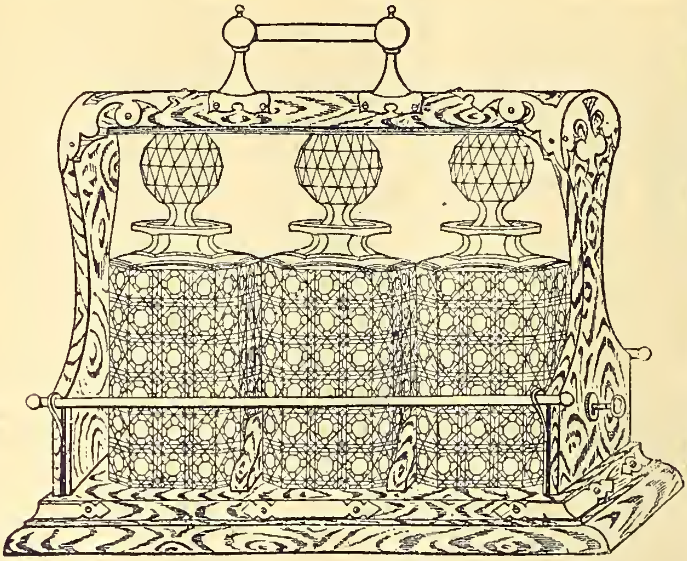
MOUNTED DIAMOND WORK,
Consisting of Gem Rings of every Variety, also Diamond Necklaces and Tiaras Diamond Bracelets, Diamond Pendants and Earrings, Diamond Studs and Pins and Gem Lockets. Diamond Gold Mounted Jewelry of Best Quality.

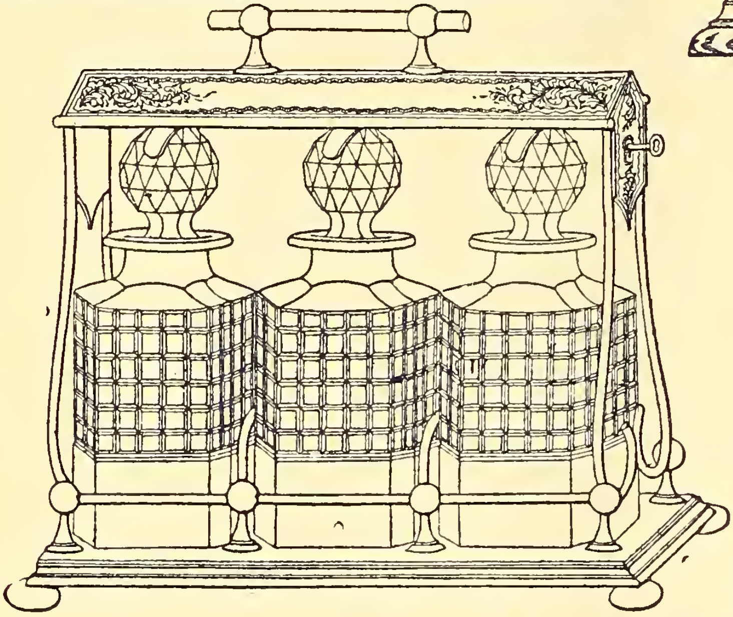
Goods are forwarded on approbation, subject to approved references, and Returns must be made within Seven Days unless otherwise arranged, and when sent for Nett Cash, remittance must accompany Returned Goods.

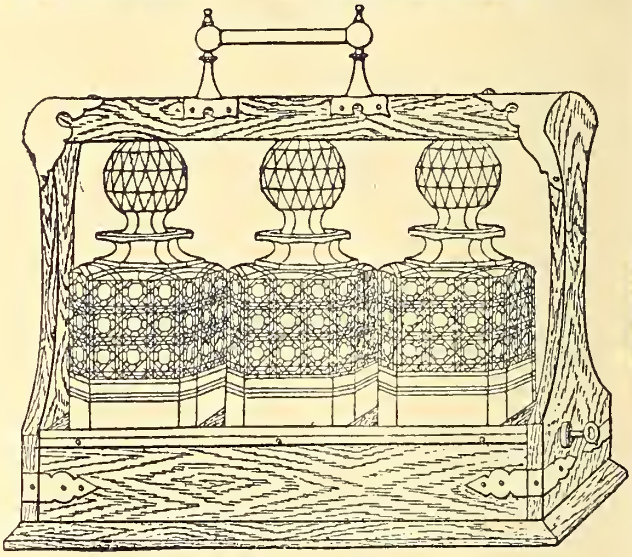
WALTHAM WATCHES.

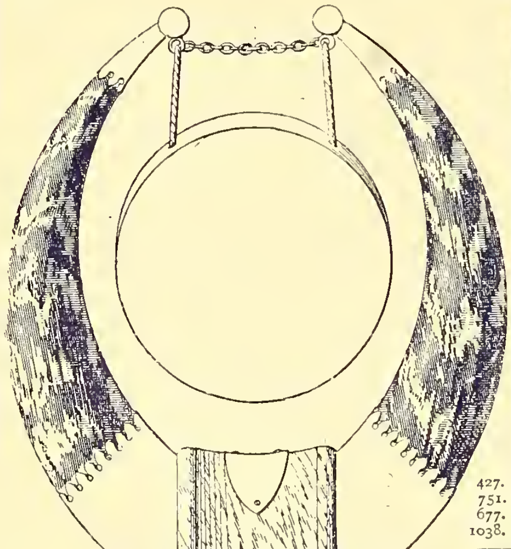
ROBBINS & APPLETON,
GENERAL AGENTS TO THE COMPANY,
Waltham Buildings, London, E.C.

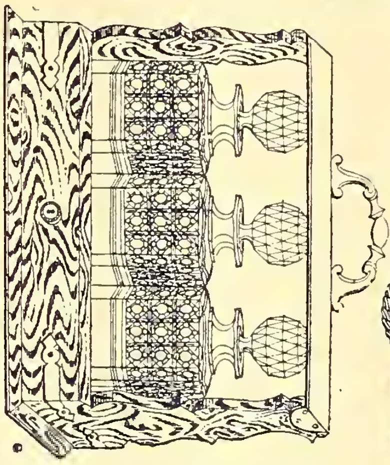


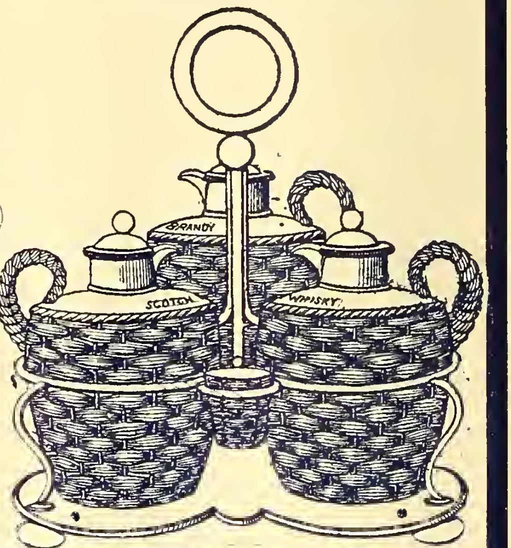












427. Liquor Frame.
751. Liquor Frame.
677. Liquor. All E.P.
1038. Liquor Frame.
748. Cape Horn Gong, 5, 7, & 9 inch.
Liquor, E.P. Top Bar.
1831. Regd. Ivanhoe, Liquor

HAMMOND CREAKE & Co.,

The Largest Manufacturers extant of Sterling Silver and A1 E.P.N.S. mounted-oak goods suitable for Prizes and Presentations. The Trade only supplied, and goods sent for approval. Always a large finished stock in hand, enabling us to guarantee them from shrinking and warping. All goods are mounted with A1 Electro-plate, not Nickelled Mounts, which, when once tarnished, cannot be cleaned. Old articles repaired, replated, and made equal to new.

TERMS, DISCOUNTS, AND CATALOGUES AND PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

Telegraphic Address—
"CREAKE, SHEFFIELD."

ST. MARY'S ROAD, SHEFFIELD.

the name of Henry's Trustees, and was well known and respected in the trade. He was, moreover, a prominent Freemason, having been a past-master of the Wentworth Lodge and the holder of other offices in connection with the craft. He was 53 years of age.

THE catalogue of the Exhibition of the Sheffield Society of Artists this year lacks the names of several townsmen whom we have come to look for almost as a matter of course. I am the more pleased, therefore, to see that an old student of the School of Art, Mr. Charles Green, is exhibiting a sketch model of a shield which may possibly some time or other be produced in silver. Mr. Green's idea is that while there are so many shields in existence to commemorate the victories achieved in all sorts of sports and pastimes, there ought to be one on which to record the names of all citizens of Sheffield deserving of the honor. The model exhibited is a suggestion as to what such a shield ought to be. I should be glad to see the suggestion carried into effect, were it only to give concrete form to the idea of so able a designer as Mr. Green. The design itself is full of local color. We certainly cannot claim Vulcan as a Sheffielder, and Industry is not peculiar to Hallamshire, but apart from these two figures it is remarkable how much there is in the design to disabuse one of the notion that no good thing can come out of Sheffield. Sculpture, for instance, is represented by Sir Francis Chantrey, painting by Creswick, R.A., designing by Alfred Stevens, poetry by James Montgomery and Ebenezer Elliott, music by Sir W. Sterndale Bennett, and so on, down to mere benefactors and manufacturers. Representations of Sheffield handicrafts lend themselves to some very fine effects when vigorously modelled, and for the rest the ornamentation of the shield is in that phase of the Renaissance characteristic of the Sheffield School, and which Godfrey Sykes developed with such splendid results at South Kensington.

DESPITE the stagnation in the lighter industries there are indications that manufacturers expect the aspect of affairs to change materially in the not very distant future. They are making efforts to keep their hands together which seem to point to more employment for them by next Christmas. This is especially noticeable in the case of those houses doing an American trade. The stocks of the better class of Sheffield cutlery in the States are admittedly very low, and it is known that it is only the uncertainty as regards the contemplated revision of the tariff which prevents orders being given out to replenish them. Even should such revision not be to our advantage (which is taking an unnecessarily pessimistic view of the matter) we are bound to obtain orders as soon as the question is decided one way or the other.

ALLUSION has more than once been made in these Notes to the extensive art scheme devised by Mr. H. C. Howlden, the manager at Messrs. Mappin & Webb's, on behalf of those employed under him. The course of lectures given and the study of art and design, followed closely by many of the workpeople, have had the desired effect, viz., a distinct improvement in many departments of the firm's business. The classes, it will be remembered, were established something like two years ago, and have since been systematically conducted on the lines laid down by Mr. Howlden. The course of instruction began with a study of the Egyptian style of ornament, which was followed in order by the Assyrian and Persian, proceeding to the Greek, Roman, Gothic, and Mediæval. The lecture inaugurating the forthcoming session has just been delivered in the large burnishing room of the works in Norfolk-street, the proceedings being presided over by the Mayor, Alderman Batty Langley, J.P. The subject was "Art under the Tudors and Stuarts—sixteenth and seventeenth centuries"—and in point of interest and instruction it was second to none of its predecessors. Much has already been done in the direction of art development in Sheffield, and in nearly every workshop designs are produced which in point of beauty and fidelity of treatment are superior to those of the past. It would stimulate the movement now going on in this direction if more of our large electro-plate establishments would follow the example so worthily set by Messrs. Mappin and Webb.

COVENTRY NOTES.

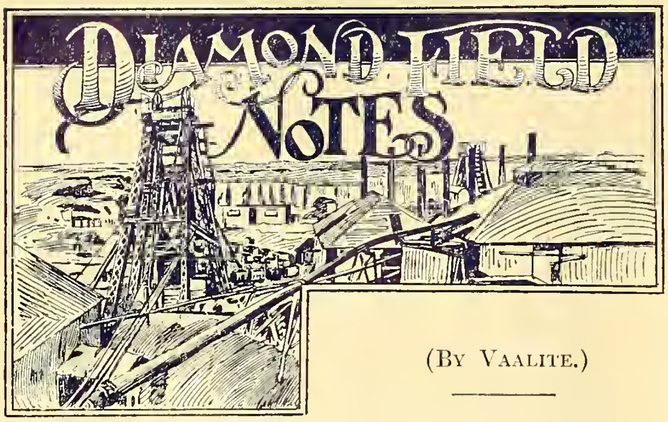
COVENTRY has just been honored with a Blue-book, in the form of census returns. Here one may see how many marriageable sons and daughters there are, how many bachelors and how many spinsters. But there are other items far more important than these, especially to the commercial world. The population of the city of Peeping Tom now just turns 53,000.

OF the staple trades, cycle making claims 3,854 males and 205 females. Watchmaking comes next with 3,032 males and 534 females. In the ribbon industry the genders are reversed, the females being 2,505 and the males only 753. These figures are for those who work in the city proper. The jewelers and silversmiths come in for a very poor share, being set down at eight males and three females. These do not include tool makers, either those employed in watchmaking or any other process, who run into three figures. Philosophical and electrical instrument makers are set down at six. There are also numerous hands employed in "soft" metal, who also help to contribute to meet the wants of the trade.

COVENTRY'S technical school has already opened, and amongst the subjects to be taught are: Watchmaking (day and evening); applied and theoretical mechanics; electricity, sound, light, and heat; machine construction and drawing; chemistry, mathematics, geometry, agriculture, typography, physiology, geology, shorthand, physiography, botany, and a number of other subjects. Wood work is being taught in a properly fitted carpenter's shop.

The Pleasure of Art.

WHEN it is remembered how extremely few counties are not now expending money upon technical education, it is only natural to expect to hear a great deal upon this subject in October. But even before this month was upon us the sessions began in some places. The opening address of the Art Department of the Science and Art Institute, Walsall, was delivered the other evening by the indefatigable Mr. W. J. Tonks, chairman of the Jewelers' and Silversmiths' Association, Birmingham. His subject was: "The Pleasure of Art," but perusal of the address brings us *sorrow*, and that from not being able to give a verbatim report of it in these columns. The lecturer defined Art as the sense of beauty, and the sense of fitness of the article for the use which it was intended to serve. It is thus more an education of the eyes than of the fingers. He then traced Art from its dawn amongst prehistoric peoples, through Egypt, Assyria, Greece, and Byzantium, showing the sources from which they drew their inspiration, and how indissolubly Art was connected with the pleasure it gave in the practising of it. Coming to Japanese art, of which Mr. Tonks has made an especial study, he pointed out what a revelation it had been to modern Europe, and how instinct with vivacity, humor, and grace it was, and how it revelled in the variety it could give to the commonest animals, insects, or flowers.



(By Vaalite.)

Kimberley, September 4th, 1893.

Nothing very exciting has taken place since I last wrote. I dare say in England you have pictured some of us surrounded by Impi and riddled with assegais, but these evils have not yet come to pass, nor do I think they ever will. Neither the diamond nor gold industry is likely to be disturbed by Lo'Bengula.

Mr. Rhodes, however, has been very busy in political matters, but he is not a man who thirsts for blood. There can be no doubt that he will do as much for the development of South Africa as he has for the diamond industry. De Beers has just sold out the remainder of its stock of diamonds to Messrs. Barnato Bros. Although prices are no easier at present, it is confidently expected that they will be a little, though not much, lower at the next sale.

Things are still prospering at the New Jagersfontein; quality is maintained fully; and for August the returns were 15,565 carats, which were sold for £34,243, and with expenses at £14,300, and allowing for the material used from the floors, the profit shown is £18,000.

It might interest your readers to hear that gold, although known for several years to exist in Natal, has recently been worked with good and promising results. All recent researches go to show that the precious metal exists almost throughout South Africa.

I hear a report of sapphires being found in the Rustenburg district, but I shall require to see them before I say anything about the find. They are reported to be of exceptional brilliancy. Of course your readers are aware that corundums, *i.e.*, sapphires and rubies, are not found in the diamond pipes, the stones sold for Cape rubies being only the pyrope or blood red garnet, similar to those found in Bohemia and Australia.

The Monastery Diamond Mine is turning out well, as I prophesied it would. They have been finding over eighty carats a week. Six hundred loads recently yielded ninety and a half carats, including one twelve and a-half carat stone and another six carats. An average of sixteen carats to the 100 loads may now be taken. They have just secured a most perfect specimen white stone of thirty-one carats.

Driekopjes, in the Orange Free State, notes of which I have sent you, still promises excellent things: amalgamation with Haartebeestfontein is now practically complete. Two shafts have been sunk, proper machinery erected. From the shafts drives will be made to determine the exact extent of the mine. So far it is shown to be of an oval shape. This mine will be the first which, from its actual commencement, has been worked upon systematic lines. Forty diamonds have already been found.

Work is proceeding at Newlands, and seventy loads yielded $11\frac{1}{3}$ carats, which sold at 27s. 6d. a carat. This gives an average of about 4s. 6d. a load, and if they can only manage to handle at the same price as Jagersfontein—*i.e.*, 2s. 6d. a load—a good profit can be made even in the early stages. Your readers will remember that your cautious expert C. J. Alford pronounced favorably upon this property.

At Klipdam and Hart's Kopje there has been quite a rush again lately, but it has been attended with the uncertainty which always accompanies river digging. At Potchefstroom also prospecting has been going on at some of the farms, with the result of finding a few stones.

I regret to say that owing to the pressure of local creditors the N.E. Bultfontein has had to close down, thus throwing out some 100 whites and 1,200 blacks, and also diminishing the diamonds put upon the market by some 2,000 carats per week. I understand, however, that reconstruction will immediately follow, on the lines of the New Gordon. As the meetings of the company have been held both in London and Kimberley, and reported in both places, it is unnecessary for me to enter into details here.

I am glad to say that the marvellous machine of Mr. McClelland is about to be used at Otto's Kopje. Mr. Leslie, the manager, is very sanguine about the success of this mine, and has made numerous trials, some of which have yielded up to half a carat a load; of course this average could not be expected. If they only get one-fifth of this it will pay well; as the McClelland process treats the blue ground directly, without spreading it out, watering it, ploughing it, and harrowing it, on the floors. Besides this, when an unpaying part is being worked the machine notifies the fact each hour, whereas under the old system it was possible to work for months on barren ground, and then not discover it for another six or nine months.

The Clock and Watch Makers' Asylum.

Just as we were going to press with our last issue, the inmates of the above Asylum were enjoying themselves at the annual dinner and tea, which are provided out of the funds left by their generous patron, Mr. William Rowlands. The chair was taken by Mr. Mullett, the beadle of the Clockmakers' Company, the vice-chair being occupied by Mr. Gooch, later by Mr. Taylor, the secretary of the Asylum. After doing ample justice to the dinner and receiving a money present of £1, the company were enlivened with some excellent music. Various toasts were then proposed, including the following: "Health of Her Majesty the Queen and all the members of the Royal Family," "Health, long life, and prosperity to the Clockmakers' Company," "Health of the Committee of the Watch and Clock Makers' Asylum." The Chairman said he did not know personally many of the members of the committee, but he knew their chairman, Mr. Gaydon, and he felt sure that nothing would be wanting on his part to do the best that he could for the inmates of the Asylum. He felt the greatest pleasure in proposing "Health and Prosperity to the Committee of the Clock and Watch Makers' Asylum." The toast was drunk, and responded to by Mr. Gooch, who made some flattering remarks respecting the committee, and their care for the wants of the inmates. The Vice-Chairman now proposed the "Health of the Chairman," which was heartily drunk. The Chairman returned thanks, in which he alluded to the two new houses that were being built, and also to the attendance of his old friend Mr. Leaver, who he was glad to see amongst them again for nearly the thirtieth year. (Cheers.) The next toast was that of the "Health of the Inmates of the Asylum," coupled with the name of Mr. Hammond. Mr. Hammond in returning thanks said that by the blessing of Providence he was enabled to return thanks, on behalf of the inmates, to the Clockmakers' Company, to the Goldsmiths' Company, and other City Companies, for their great liberality to the inmates of the Asylum; and once more he was happy to say that words could not express their gratitude for the kindness shown to them. He felt sure that his sentiments expressed those of all the inmates of the Asylum. (Loud cheers.) The toasts were interspersed with songs, and more followed the healths of the secretary and of the warden (Mr. Gooch), which were all proposed and drunk with great heartiness, each gentleman returning thanks. "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the Queen" brought the meeting to a happy termination.

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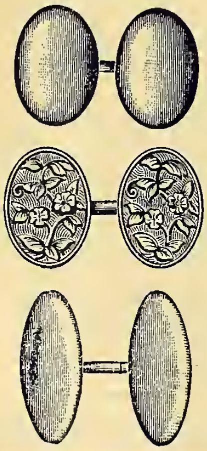

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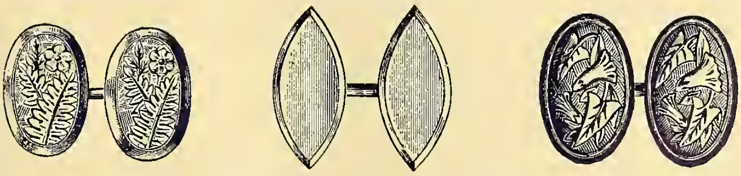

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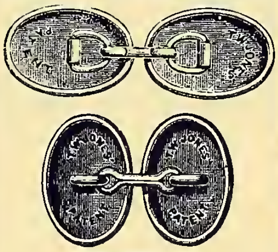

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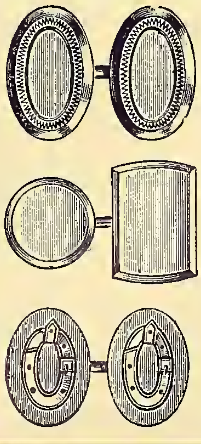

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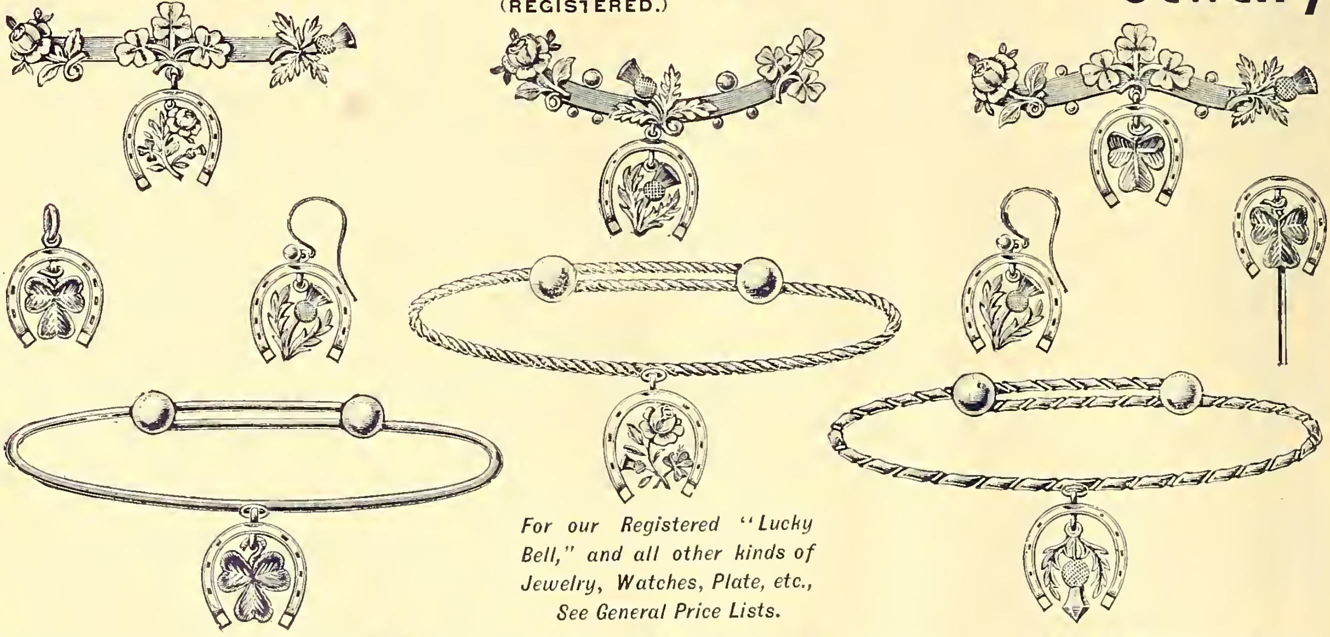

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Hints for the Workshop.

By H. A. Warwood,

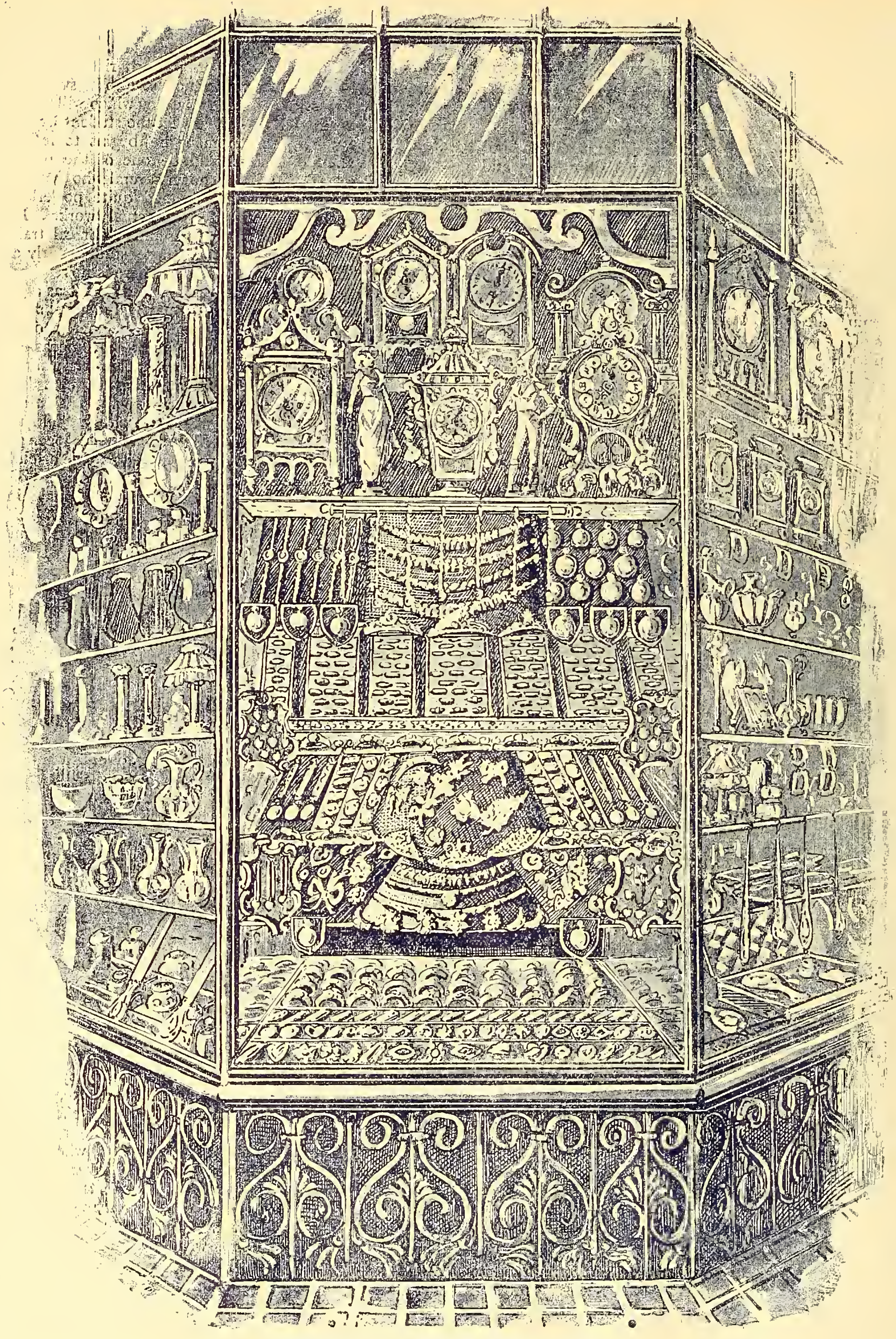
Late Master and Instructor, Birmingham Jewelers' Technical School.

I have been requested to indicate a course of study or training, founded upon my experiences as a workman and teacher of the goldsmith's art ; and I may say that nothing could give me more pleasure than to place before the readers of the Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith my ideas and experiences, which I trust may be of some little service as far as workshops of our trade are concerned. I shall be happy if I can suggest something which would in a measure dispose of the almost everyday railing against the shortcomings of our workmen and the products of our workshops. I have been accustomed from boyhood to hear and read of the superiority, which I am forced to admit, of other nations in the matter of art work, and whilst always admiring the artistic productions of other countrymen, I have felt a sense of pitying regret that my own should be behind in this respect, inasmuch as the fault lies not so much with themselves as with the loose and uncertain system of early teaching and training in some of our workshops, and, more deplorable still, the indiscriminate placing of boys to a trade for which, beyond its mere drudgery, they have absolutely no aptitude True, it is a nice, light, clean trade, and few parents are willing to admit that their boys are unfitted by nature to grasp its many subtle details; hence the mischief, and to add to the misfortune, after serving their apprenticeship, they are perforce compelled to join the ranks of the "cheap jeweler." A wise Providence decrees that all shall not have the same aptitude for any one calling, and generally speaking, a boy hits his mark only by accident; but, by the system I am going to suggest, his future would be better secured and each industry benefited to a degree at present unattainable. I believe some such system has been in vogue for some time in France, and the results speak for themselves. My observations force me to the opinion that if the inrush of boys unfitted for the trade could be stopped, and only those with aptitude admitted, a notable change would be brought about ; the working jeweler would then have no cause to feel ashamed of his calling, for with proper training he would become a practical "art demonstrator" and be above the "prods" and censure of those who now elect themselves his compeers. Very much has been written and said (doubtless with good intent) on this subject by persons more or less qualified to deal with it, but in many cases a palpable lack of real technical knowledge has done much harm and only brought their efforts into contempt, for intelligent men know how very impossible it would be to put some of the theories advanced by these visionaries into practice. For instance, we have one writer who in all seriousness suggests the abolition of the seven years' apprenticeship, and avers that a term of three years is sufficient. Any practical man can have but one opinion of this idea. If the student is to be kept at one branch, and that, say, decorating stampings with filigree, then certainly three years is too long a period to waste on the acquisition ; but if he has to gain a general practical knowledge of the important branches it would be impossible for him to gain proficiency in the three years. Then there comes the high art preacher, who will advocate in flowery language the subjugation of technique in the interests of art and urge that the student should come to the trade, say, at sixteen years of age. What can a man who really does understand the amount of time which is required to master the technicalities of our trade say to this ? He can only say it will take a lad much longer to acquire the proper use of his tools than to manipulate the brush and pencil as required for his trade. Not only so, but I find when a boy has become a little advanced in drawing he feels, as it were, infatuated with it, almost to the exclusion of technique, probably thinking that designing is a nicer occupation and rises above the more menial parts of his work, which have to be surmounted before he can possibly produce anything which will give him the same pleasure. By all means let the student be taught art as he goes ; from the moment he begins to learn his trade, correctness of lines should be one of the principal goals in view. But I have known several who have been thus educated in art and have seemed quite powerless to master the technical difficulties of actual work. I am of decided opinion that art teaching and technical training should be inseparable and both these studies early commenced and continued side by side. There is no reason why the craftsman should not be as much an artist as a workman and every reason why he should ; and until such an end is gained he will always be at the mercy of "art smatterers and faddists," by whom we are occasionally treated to a bewildering discourse on ancient art work, and who can see no beauty except in the things of yesterday, or rather in the works of art of centuries past. With all their crudeness and barbarous finish, such articles are held up as models for modern workmen. All this twaddle has been going on for years and little or nothing done to refine or elevate the workman's ideas; but thanks to the establishment of the art and technical schools in our midst, we may in a few years reasonably hope for a better state of things. The vocation of the Jingos of art will be gone, and the minds of our workmen will be unfettered by confusing twaddle. To me it is a matter of regret that our technical classes are not thrown open for young boys leaving school, where they may receive a general grounding prior to entering the workshop. This would effectually serve as a test of qualification, as it is impossible to over-rate the value of early impressions. On assuming my duties as master of the school, I suggested this course, but, like many other measures introduced for advancement, it is beset with difficulties in the way of varied opinions and prejudice. Evidently the wish of the committee is to strike at once into the heart of the workshop. This, of course, is to be highly commended, but the difficulty here lies in trying to persuade some that there is yet much to learn ; still, if our schools only diffuse a true spirit of art and skill they will have accomplished much.

(*To be continued.*)

On the 9th ult. the workpeople of Messrs. T. & J. Bragg, of Vittoria-street, Birmingham, held their annual excursion, to the charming old village of Bidford on the banks of the Avon. The greater number of the party journeyed by early train in the morning, exploring the district and enjoying the views from the adjoining table land of Cleeve Prior. A substantial dinner was provided at the White Lion Hotel, when the toasts of the Queen and that of the firm were duly honored. Mr. J. W. Tonks, in responding, congratulated those present on the fact that in spite of bad trade they were able to keep together in regular employment, and pointed out that in these days no standing repute, individual or collective, was sufficient without a constant effort towards increased excellence in novelty and style. After dinner the church was visited, also the old Falcon Inn, where Shakespeare was reported to have stayed. The river was sought for boating and fishing, so that when the party again met for tea at the hotel they were able to give a good account of the place. The weather was all that could be desired, and the party journeyed home with the unanimous opinion that the day had been a very enjoyable one.

A collection of some thirty "grandfather's" clocks, including some very fine specimens, has recently been acquired by J. Radford, St. Ives, and is drawing together a large crowd of admirers.



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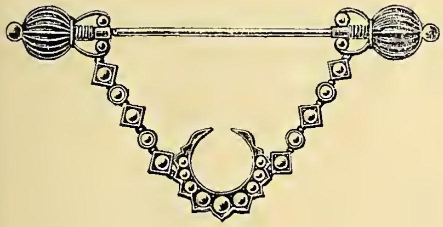

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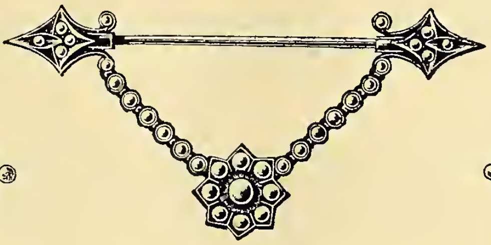

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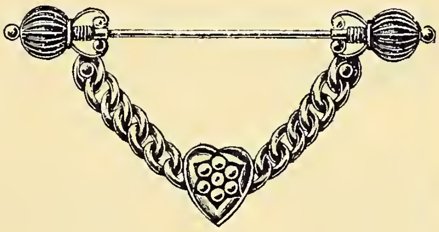

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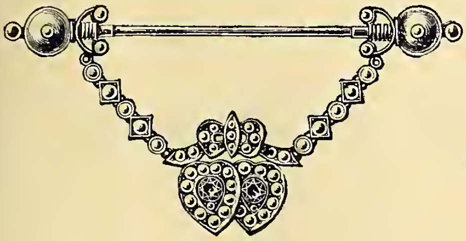

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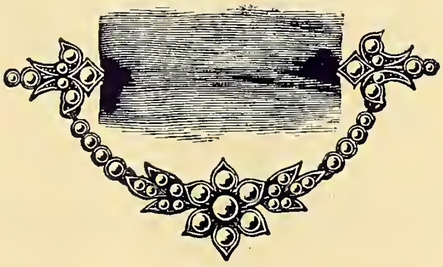

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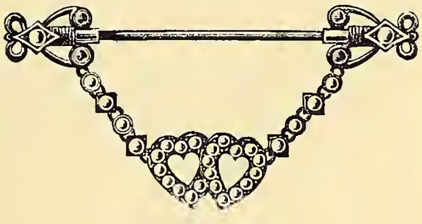

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REPRESENTATIVE WINDOWS.

By the Editor.

Whatever we may say in admiration of the window illustrated on a preceding page, it will probably be admitted that despite its grandeur it breaks one of our cardinal rules, "Avoid overcrowding." But this series of articles is not so much to enforce our own ideas as to give prominence to other people's. This window is certainly one of the most imposing displays of its size in the trade, containing the greatest amount of expensive stock and the greatest variety of articles. To commence with, it will be seen that it is architecturally of modern construction, and that it includes three panes of a front, forming the so-called "bow." It is crowned by small panes which form part of the architectural structure, and stands upon an art iron base. This is surrounded by prism reflectors, which light the basement, and give uniformity to the edifice. It is not fitted with an entire stand, but upon the fit-as-you-go principle. The upper third is devoted to clocks, which are always of new, taking, and not unimposing designs; in fact, it may be said that in this window may be seen the newest arrivals in the world of clocks. The next tier is composed of three members, placed a foot or so from the front, displaying bracelet-watches, necklets, and gold watches. Towards the front are displayed novelties in ladies' alberts. The next tier is formed by a glass shelf carrying five rectangular trays of rings, well assorted as regards style, for the most part diamonds and other gems. This tier projects more to the front than the upper one, and the rings slope back at a gentle angle. Above the three centre trays are fixed three tiaras, which hide the break of the two tiers. Towards the sides a short bar, carrying three velvet shields bearing specialities in gold watches, performs the same purpose of obliterating the break. The next tier is formed of shaped blocks resting upon a glass shelf. Of these the centre one is circular—or rather curve-fronted—and sweeps backward very quickly, as it is just below the line of vision. This is usually dressed with large sprays, tiaras, or other important pieces of diamond work. Diamond work also follows on either side, which is succeeded by fob watches. The space between this tier and the last is occupied by a strip passing the whole length of the window, upon which fit, on two tiers, very fine diamond goods, including one row of diamond and ruby, diamond and emerald, cats-eye and other gem bracelets, separated by pairs of ear-tops, and one row of other specialities in small diamond goods. At this level the first electric lights occur, and these repose snugly behind right-angled reflectors fixed to Louis XIV. trays, displaying the now fashionable pendants. This last tier stands somewhat back, and is succeeded downwards by another of somewhat the same nature, similarly dressed with diamond goods, and formed of three pieces resting on a glass shelf. The two side members of the two tiers are separated by a slip, upon which fit bracelets, and several other articles. At this level comes another pair of electric lights, similarly hid to the upper ones, the trays being dressed with the novelties of the hour. The bottom of the window is fitted with receding trays of large size and full of heavy stock, bracelets forming the back, while the front three rows are employed with brooches, pendants, and things of that sort. The window is fitted with angle mirrors at the side. It appears as if the proprietor had given orders that every space should be filled, and that with something good. Practically everything is marked, although the collets go up to four figures. Trays of stones are shown rough and cut, and diamonds sized out and their weight affixed to them. The two side panes are occupied with fashionable silver, for the most part flush dressed, on shelves.

GOLDSMITHS' AND JEWELERS' ANNUITY AND ASYLUM INSTITUTE.

The 133rd half-yearly general meeting of the above Institution was held at the Horological Institute, Northampton-square, on August 31st, under the presidency of Col. Geo. Lambert. The financial statement up to June 30th showed £9,500 invested in 2¾ per cent. Consols at the Bank of England; with the Accountant General, High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, £787 9s. 1d.; cash at London and County Bank, £840 3s. 9d.; in hands of secretary, 10s.; due from "benefit account," £49 11s. 3d.; total £11,177 14s. 1d. In their report the committee said:— That in spite of adverse circumstances of the trade, they have every reason to believe that the Institution is fully maintaining its position. The usual steps have been taken to obtain funds, and arrangements were nearly completed with the lessees of the Olympic Theatre for a benefit entertainment for one week, but at last the lessees departed from their preliminary agreement, and the conditions suggested were of such an onerous character that your committee felt they would not be justified in entering into them.

At the annual dinner which took place in January, at which the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor presided, the contributions reached the sum of £292 7s. 6d. The thanks of the committee as representing the subscribers are hereby respectfully tendered to his lordship, to whose kind advocacy the Institution is so largely indebted for this pleasing result. They have furthermore the satisfaction to announce that the president, having happily quite recovered from his indisposition, was present, and again favored the Institution with his usual generous support. At the election in February last, three men and eight women were unsuccessful. One of the male candidates has since died, but another one has come forward. The women have been increased by two, making in all ten candidates, of whom the committee propose to elect three men and five women. There are four vacancies in the asylum, and as only that number of candidates has come forward, there will be no contest, but a vote of the subscribers present at the general meeting will be taken, to ascertain if the four applicants may be permitted to take up their residence in the building. Colonel Howard Vincent, C.B., M.P., has kindly consented to preside at the next annual dinner, which will take place early in January.

The Chairman congratulated the members of the Institution upon the success which attended their last anniversary festival under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, who had discharged the duties of that position in an admirable manner. Not only did his lordship make an excellent chairman, but he gave a handsome donation. The Jewelers' Colonel was then re-elected president amid enthusiastic cheering.

The Chairman, in returning thanks, assured them he was deeply and sincerely obliged for the unanimity and enthusiasm they displayed in conferring such an honor upon him. He would, however, remind them that "whilst time made cowards of them all," they ought to remember that he, as the recipient of their frequently bestowed compliment, was getting old, and not as strong as he was thirty-two years ago, when he was first chosen for the presidential chair. Whilst accepting the position to which they were now pleased to elect him so unanimously, he would suggest that they should now make some change and look for another president. ("No, no.") He did not say that he would not accede to their resolution passed that night or decline to act as president; but after thirty-two years' occupancy of the chair he really thought it was time that some change should be made. ("No, no.") Very well, he would continue to do his best. (Applause.)

Sir John Bennett, and Messrs. Francis Boone Thomas and John Troup, were re-elected as trustees; Mr. Smith, manager of the Islington branch of the London and County Bank, as treasurer; Messrs. W. E. Meyers, T. H. Shrimpton, W .S., Spilling, J. H. Salter, and Daniel as auditors; and Messrs. J. Taylor, Meyers, Freethey, Moule, Jones, Phillips, Lowen, Harvey, Taylor, and Harwood, as the committee.

In the result the election was as follows:—Miss Taylor, 2,780; Mrs. Richards, 2,298; Mrs. Tapley, 2,247; Mrs. Lawrence, 2,122, Mrs. Bingham, 1,999; Mrs. Lowe, 1,528; Mrs. Zeitter, 991; Mrs. Hoyle, 743; Mrs. Franc, 378; Mrs. Mansell, 256.

Tickets and Ticket Writing.

By the Editor.

(*Continued from page* 154.)

The Letter F.—This letter is made exactly as the foregoing in every way and of the same proportions, except the lower member, which is only a foot of the serif, instead of the whole limb.

The Letter G.—Proceed as with C, that is, draw first an oval in pencil, symmetrical both horizontally and vertically and in the same sized rectangle. Mark off upon the horizontal line the width of the down-stroke, and draw the inside curve, which completes the left member; then draw in the upper serif exactly as for C. At one time C was the equivalent for G and K, but when the two sounds became separated C was slightly modified by the alteration of its lower member. The alteration is formed somewhat similar to the upper serif, commencing in the bottom right hand corner and meeting the curve on the horizontal line. This, however, is met by another cross-line of the same length as the serif of a down-stroke, which thickens out this new member to a corresponding thickness; a curve is sprung over to the right corner at such a distance as to form symmetry with the up curve of the letter. The cross-line of the G naturally projects beyond the rectangle. These operations are all indicated in Fig. 26.

The Letter H.—The letter H, being one of the two widest letters in the alphabet, is not quite contained in the usual rectangle. The serifs therefore project slightly over on both sides, as shown in Fig. 27. In drawing the letter, commence as with the downstroke of E, only closer to the sides of the rectangle, make both uprights the same distance from these corresponding sides, and join them by a line across the centre. Do not put the latter above or below this position, or it destroys the symmetry of the letter. The serifs are formed by obliterating the angle between the uprights and the cross lines exactly as in the case of the letter E, except that the obliteration is made on both sides of the uprights, and not on the outside only, as in the case of the letter E.

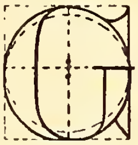

Fig. 26.

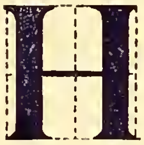

Fig. 27.

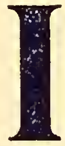

Fig. 28.

The Letter I.—Of this letter little need be said, it is the almost isolated instance of a character not occupying the usual rectangle. It is formed exactly like one of the uprights in the last letter. It must, however, be borne strictly in mind that the serif top and bottom is *double*, as this alone distinguishes the letter I from the figure 1. It should, of course, be made of the same thickness as the downstrokes of the rest of the letters, as shown in Fig. 28.

The Letter J.—Although the letter J in caligraphy can be replaced by I it is not so in type. This letter is the second which does not entirely fill our rectangle, but its symmetry is regulated by it, and we therefore employ our basis in its construction. First draw the line for the serifs twice the length of the width of the downstroke on the top right-hand, ending in the extreme corner, next drop a straight downstroke of the usual width straight to the horizontal line, continue the right side line in the same vertical direction not quite one-third through the next division, and then spring a curve to the junction of the vertical dotted line. Continue this curve into the other lower division of the rectangle, making it symmetrical with the curve on the other side of the vertical, and finish with a ball the diameter of which is equal to the thickness of the downstroke. It is probably for the sake of plainness that this odd ball has been introduced into the Roman alphabet, otherwise the letter should end like all similar cases in a serif; as indeed it does in some founts. To obtain a better idea of the symmetry of the letter a line can be dotted off through the bottom rectangle, about one-third down, and from its junction with the vertical describe a circle. The inside line of the downstroke is now continued in a vertical direction for about half the distance between our new dotted line and the bottom, it is then made to meet the other line in a gradual curve, as shown in Fig. 29.

The Letter K.—In the formation of this letter we again have recourse to our rectangle. First draw a downstroke exactly as in the letter H; then along the top to the right hand corner draw a line for a serif of an upstroke. Next dot off a point two-thirds up from the bottom of the right side of the downstroke; from this draw a straight thin line to the centre of the small cross line: obliterate the angles of juncture as usual, and two members are finished. Next mark off on the bottom line, right corner, a line of a down stroke serif, now from the point where the up line crosses the midian line draw a straight line to serif line just drawn, about a quarter of the distance of its length, from the left end; draw another line parallel to the last long line separated from it by the width of the downstroke. Put the usual curve finish to the serif, and the letter is completed, as shown in Fig. 30.

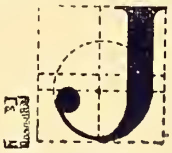

Fig. 29.

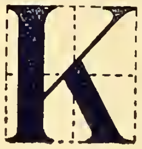

Fig. 30.

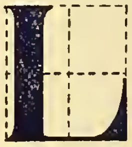

Fig. 31.

The Letter L.—In the letter L the rectangle is a little more laterally conpressed—*i.e.*, it is not quite so wide as in the last letter. First draw a downstroke as in the letter E, finish the top with a serif. Next draw a line along the bottom in the same manner as in that letter, breaking the angle on the outside to form the serif, but not on the inner side. Next make a foot of the same proportions as in E and F, and the letter is finished as shown in Fig. 31.

The Letter M.—In the letter M the serifs on both sides project beyond the rectangle. In its construction proceed as follows: first draw a thin stroke on the left vertical line of the rectangle: to the bottom of this add a serif of the size for an upstroke. Next draw the right hand vertical, let the outside line coincide with that of the rectangle, to the bottom of this add a double serif, as shown in Fig. 32. Next point off on the bottom line the centre between the up stroke and the inner side of the downstroke, draw a line from the top of the upstroke to this point, and another from the top of the inside of the downstroke to the same point: from the top of this line draw a short line to the right to beyond the rectangle to form the serif, obliterate the angle on the outside, do not extend the serif on the left side. Now, to the top of the upstroke add another serif of exactly the same size as the last, this will project beyond the rectangle similar to the corresponding serif at the foot, while inside it will extend to exactly the width of a downstroke, as shown in Fig. 33. From this point draw another line parallel with the oblique downstroke, and the letter is finished, as shown in Fig. 34. The downstrokes

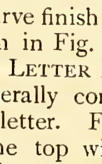

Fig. 32.

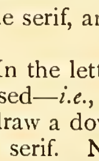

Fig. 33.

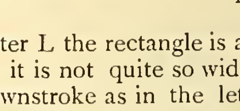

Fig. 34.

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whether vertical or oblique should follow the spring made by the curve of the serif, so that in point of fact the oblique downstroke should not meet the first upstroke exactly at the point, but a very short distance down it, and the serif should appear to spring from the line, and not independently upon the upstroke.

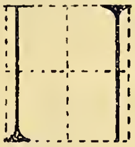
Fig. 35.

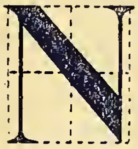
Fig. 36.

The Letter N.—The letter N on the other hand is contained in our rectangle. Bearing in mind that the letter is supposed to be made as we make a script, or caliglyphic N, *i.e.*, commencing at the bottom, we get first an *up*stroke, which is thin, then a downstroke, which is thick, and then another *up*stroke, which is also thin; no error is more common nor its effects more unsightly than reversing or altering this order. First draw the two thin lines, at the distance from the sides of the projection of the serif, as shown in Fig. 35. It will be noticed that at the *bottom* of the first and the *top* of the second,there is a double serif. At the top of the first the line of the serif is as long as that on the other side; now from the point from which the curve of the serif appears to spring draw a straight line obliquely to the bottom of the other vertical line; then from the point of the upper serif draw a line parallel to the last, at a distance of the thickness of a downstroke, and the letter is finished, as shown in Fig. 36. We do not here illustrate any of the monstrosities produced by breaking the above rules, taking it for granted that the rules laid down will be adhered to.

(*To be continued.*)

Good Window Tickets.—We have received from E. W. Morris, jun., New Inn Hall-street, Oxford, samples of his numerous tickets for the use of the trade; they are well printed for the most part in gold on chocolate, black, and blue grounds. The style chosen is excellent, the variety exceedingly extensive, and the price lists accompanying the selection is very tempting. No one really need have their window disfigured with bad tickets because of the expense of first-class marks.

A Giant Catalogue.—Probably one of the largest catalogues presented to the trade is that of Joseph Hood, 2-16, Barwick-street, Birmingham. It consists of 226 closely-printed, well illustrated, elaborately colored, large sized pages. In this volume the side lines are so numerous that jewelry, watches, and clocks, only comprise a part of the volume. Cutlery, electro-plate, fancy goods, lamps, china of every description, brass and leather goods, are extensively detailed. The firm should be an excellent one for export trade, and our Colonial readers should be sure and get a copy of this volume.

The Camera Club.—This well-known club has been fortunate in securing a number of first-class scientists to deliver lectures to them during the coming winter. On September 21st the great seisemologist, Professor J. Milne, F.R.S., who is now visiting this country from Japan, lectured on "Earthquakes in Japan." Some of the methods and instruments described were absolute marvels. Those who do business at all in instruments, should pay a visit to the Science and Art Collections in the Imperial Institute Buildings, South Kensington, where a number of these and many other instruments are exposed to view. This collection also includes the celebrated old Glastonbury Clock, the location of which appears to be unknown to several who have attempted to give its history.

Victor Kullberg's Catalogue.—We are pleased to welcome the price list of horological wonders manufactured by Victor Kullberg, 105, Liverpool-road, London. The prices of all pieces are attached. The latter include marine chronometers, deck-watches, pocket chronometers, and levers of all descriptions. Most of these carry some of the ingenious inventions which bear the name of Kullberg. There is also a detail of astronomical clocks, and, like the foregoing contain all sorts of contrivances invented by that master of our science and art. The list is not a thick volume, but assuredly it gives particulars of one of the finest collection of horological instruments ever brought together. The name of Kullberg is associated with fine work in the minds not only of the trade but of the world at large, as he has never exhibited without taking prizes. When we point out that the lowest price mentioned is £22 17s., an idea of the quality and description of the goods can be formed.

Transatlantic Jottings.

Only a few weeks more, and the most stupendous. mechanical panorama ever depicted upon the human retina will be a thing of the past, and it is quite possible that such another as the Chicago World's Fair will never more be seen. Many are sanguine that at least the guarantors will not be out of pocket, but the view is very general that a serious deficit will be shown at the close. The exhibitors are not all by any means satisfied, and the way sales have been managed from first to last has been a fertile source of discontent.

It is certain, from the large number of failures, that enormous sums will be lost by the mushroom structures that have been run up to afford accommodation for an imaginary population, which in many instances did not reach 10 per cent. of the anticipations. Even members of our trades were tempted into many of these speculations, and from the World's Fair will date the fall of many a firm, which had it not been for that speculation would have been doing a prosperous trade in the precious metals.

A case in point is that of the Alvin Manufacturing Co. Readers will probably remember that I sent you word that this firm held a contract with the World's Fair Commission for the sale of silver souvenir spoons,of which it was expected to sell 180,000. For the exclusive right of this a certified cheque for 35,000dol. was demanded by the Commissioners, who pledged themselves that no other spoons should be sold on the grounds. The company now assert that other manufacturers have been permitted to sell souvenir spoons at lower prices, with the result that of the 180,000 spoons only some 60,000 have been disposed of. Recently I heard that as a result the Alvin Manufacturing Co.'s factory has been almost closed, only about 10 per cent. of the hands being kept on. I also hear that the company intends taking action against the Commissioners.

Amongst the adjudicators appointed for the group of scientific instruments are Professor Gore, of the Columbian University, Washington; Professor Milne, of England; Professor Westphall and Professor Penksy, of Germany; Professor Oblongsky, of Russia; and Professor Hoag, of the State University of Minnesota. Of a selection like this to decide the respective merits of such things as one would generally include under the heading of scientific instruments, no one would say a word. Perhaps the most delicate instruments ever conceived have been incubated in the fertile brain of Professor Milne in connection with earth movements. But of the inadvisability of putting chronometers, astronomical clocks, and kindred exhibits into this group, there will be no two opinions in the trade.

Still, for all that, I think those who have availed themselves of the opportunity of the sights afforded by the Exposition will have obtained material which must sooner or later bear fruit. One of the latest arrivals hails from the French capital, and is of the greatest interest to jewelers. It is the combined show of Bucheron and Vever, which represents no less than 6,000,000dol. worth of gems, and forms a sight which few ever saw. I was greatly struck by a necklace and earrings composed of thirteen diamonds all of different colors, and valued at 100,000dol.; as I also was by a fine pin composed of six blue diamonds, on a background of yellow diamonds, the value of which, as well as of several others reaches a sixth figure. Very interesting, too, are some of the historic jewels: a jeweled gold and silver bound prayer book, for instance, which dates away back to before the event celebrated by the Exposition.

A Spanish lady, Felipa Guisasola, of Madrid, makes an exquisite display of gold onlay on blue steel; similar to the kind of thing I have seen in England on Court swords. It is really very charming, and it is a great pity the work is not introduced more into jewelry.

The various uses to which the feather metal is being put are very remarkable. A bicycle is shown by the Pope Manufacturing Company which only weighs 8½lb. I also hear that the metal, more or less alloyed, is being employed for purposes for which it was formerly considered unsuitable.

I have heard a great many people express surprise, accompanied by some amount of disappointment, that the English watchmakers have stood aloof. When I remember the complicated 2,500dol. watches that I saw marked up in the window of a London store, and asking if they were English, was answered they were, I must say I share in this disappointment, as I have never seen anything like them in the States.

But, whatever be the result of the Exhibition as a whole, it has had a marvellous effect, and made thousands realise the good and even the desirability of such public demonstrations of skill and ability. So much so that it has been decided to make another exhibition at New York in January next; so as to give very many thousands the opportunity of seeing the prize-takers, from which distance has debarred them. And while the wind is yet blowing south a stronger breeze starts up blowing towards the west, and 'Frisco has decided on having a mid-winter Exposition, also to open in January, but it must be remembered that the first three months in that quarter are Spring.

Nor do things even stop there, for the British city Toronto also intends holding an Exposition, and I have no doubt it will prove a success. Toronto is a large and growing place, with nearly three hundred miles of streets, and about two thousand five hundred manufacturing establishments. Extracts from reports state that permits for the erection of buildings last year alone amounted to 4,000,000dol. Moreover, Toronto being in the British Dominion, no doubt Britishers will realise the importance of the opportunity of counteracting the agitation of the would-be dismemberers of the Empire, and convince the Canadian public that the Mother Country can supply all the needs of her offspring.

Leaving the Exposition, and turning to the condition of the outside world, or as much of it as is embraced in that significant and oft-repeated text "How's trade?" I regret to say we are still in the heat of a crisis. We daily try to bid ourselves good cheer, and hope for the best, which we can do, so long as we ask few questions. When we commence these inquiries and go all the way round, we find a number of opinions not only as to the extent of the crisis but of its nature. It seems, however, that there is a general agreement that the pinch has been most severely felt by jobbers. The falling-off in trade has not, perhaps, been so severely felt by retailers. This, of course, is easy enough to understand, when we remember the recklessness with which banks have been managed in connection with land sales, and the consequent bank smashings and difficulty of obtaining money for even genuine business purposes, to say nothing at all about the pernicious influence of the Silver Laws.

I am sorry to note a large number of failures connected with the trade, several reaching six figures. So far as I can gather, the prophetic impression of the fall trade is by no means assuring.

It is believed the Dulaney Clock Company will not be able to pay more than two cents. on the dollar; still, as "one generation passeth away and another taketh its place," other factories are starting up or increasing their capital. Milwaukee now considers she ought to have a clock factory, and one, under the name of the Appleton Clock Company, has been incorporated with 150,000dol. capital. The Holmes and Edwards Silver Company, of Bridport, have increased their capital to 400,000dol., a similar action being taken by the United States Optical Company, and a dial enamelling company started in New York with 15,000dol. capital.

Turning to our monster factories, I have little better news to give than last month. The American Waltham Watch Company have declared a semi-annual dividend of 4 per cent.; they have on hand no less than 200,000 movements. The Elgin has only about 80,000 similar articles, and is therefore in, perhaps, rather a better position; however, they have decided not to declare a dividend at present. In both these cases their immediate future will be greatly determined by the result of the Chicago Exposition. I hear great discontent expressed amongst jobbers against the latter Company.

The colossal action of John Dueber is still pending, and it is probable that witnesses will now be examined in substantiation of his charges. Curious litigation has arisen in connection with the old insolvent Keystone Standard Watch Company, the decision of which will be looked forward to with great interest by the trade. Poor old Keystone! of its former 1,800 employés, fifty only now remain!

The Wadsworth factory is said to be running full time: a condition also enjoyed by the Columbus, but the men of the latter claim that they cannot get money long overdue, and fifteen of the finishers are now on strike. A number of the other companies have prolonged their shut-down period.

Turning to yet another side of life, it might be interesting to hear that there are jewelers with such a desire for bargains as to be taken in by the old gold dust swindle, as a Toronto jeweler recently proved, when he parted with 2,000dol. for one of those "Siberian smugglings." Still, honesty has not fallen below zero all round, for a New York travelling salesman recently lost in St. Louis his wallet, with 20,000dol. worth of diamonds, which was picked up in the street and sent to his hotel.

Cutting Prices not Allowed.—Messrs. Ezra F. Bowman and Co., watch manufacturers, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, writing us a few days since, say:—There is one thing in your journal strikes us with great favor—viz., "Cutting prices are not allowed to be advertised in this journal." We think that if trade journals generally took this step, it would have a very great deal to do with keeping the trade from falling into demoralised channels, in which it unfortunately finds itself in a great many different lines. We are in full sympathy with your position in this, since the writer took a stand about ten years ago that jobbers should not retail. This at the time was a good deal hooted at by competing jobbers, but he finds he is rewarded to-day in a business requiring the employment of thirty-four people, as well as seeing a great many of the old jobbing houses changing their business by dropping the retail department.

Watch Springs and the Aurora.—Our respective contemporary, the *Canadian Trader*, states that, based on actual inquiries, it is estimated that on a single night in New York the mainsprings of no less than 3,000 watches broke during a display of the aurora borealis. We fear, however, that, were we on the jury, we should bring in the accused as "not guilty" unless we had "overwhelming evidence of the connection" of the prisoner with the act, of which at present we have not a particle. We should first ask why the effects had been noted so far south as New York and the intervening States let off scot-free. Bearing in mind the rate at which magnetic influence decreases with increase of distance, not a single spring would escape in the *Trader's* dominion. If the aurora's influence was so great, what ought we to think of the chronometer which was lost in the Polar regions (we believe for the moment it was by Parry), and found again after a long period in no way injured.

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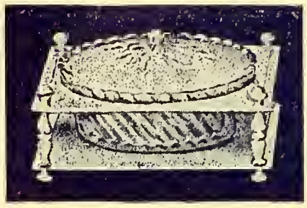

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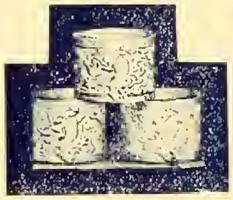

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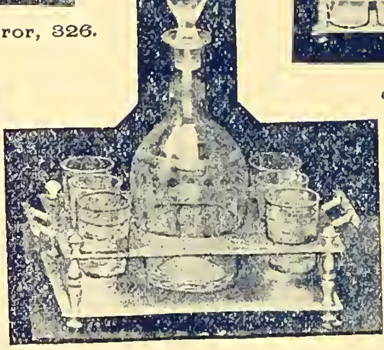

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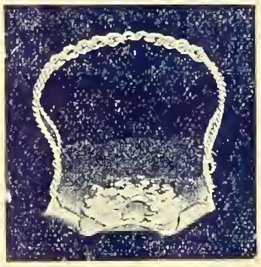

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THE ARTIFICIAL PRODUCTION OF THE DIAMOND.

From the moment that the chemical composition of the diamond became known theories of its mode of origin have been on the increase, nor are some of the ridiculous suggestions and assertions of the nineteenth century more probable than the fairy tales of yore. Our illustrious Newton first suggested that the diamond was a coagulated fat or oily body of vegetable origin, and following his suggestion many have believed that they saw microscopic indications of such an origin in its ash. Others have gone a little further and maintained that if the heat of a volcanic neck bursting through the strata could change a seam of coal into anthracite, and the anthracite into graphite, it could surely advance one step further and transform the graphite into diamond. Others have believed the gem to have crystalised from liquid carbonic acid, although almost every speculator has differed as to the way in which this was effected, some invoking fire, water, or electricity, others the presence of some metallic reducing agent, while yet others believe it to have been the result of the slow decomposition of certain gaseous hydrocarbons. Nor do these theories by any means exhaust the list. Such were some of the current ideas on this question when Messrs. Mactear and Hannay, Scotch chemists, took up the subject in the seventies. Imbued with the alchemic cult of his predecessors Hannay brought together a mixture, the reaction of which is a puzzle to anyone with the slightest knowledge of chemistry. This heterogeneous mass consisted of paraffin spirit, alkaline metals—usually lithium—and bone oil distillate; these were put into an iron cylinder, which, after being welded, was subjected to the heat of a reverberatory furnace for a long period. During the latter process many of the cylinders burst, sometimes doing great damage, but now and then they withstood the treatment, and when sawn up yielded hard black masses, in the centres of which were crystalline-carbon, possessing the form and properties of diamond.

Now, although Mr. Hannay was inclined to regard certain nitrogenous bases in his bone-oil as facilitating the reduction of the carbon, there were others who believed the iron to be the active agent; indeed, some went so far as to say that the manufacturing of steel was the next thing to producing diamonds, while Clouet showed that steel could be made by exposing iron and diamond together to heat. The function of iron in the production of the diamond was further shown in the Russian meteorite and Fletcher's cliftonite, as already described by us, and by the finds in the Canon Diablo meteorite. Recently papers have teemed with accounts of the first discovery by French savants of the diamond in this meteorite; but our readers will remember that we described this before a specimen had reached the Continent. Of late years both in England and on the Continent the element carbon has been the object of great research, and several forms of this element have been discovered and prepared artificially; more especially in this country by Marsden, and on the Continent by Luzi. The greatest impetus in this direction was doubtless the introduction of the electric furnace, by which heat undreamed of can be reached in a few seconds. It was at the Inventions Exhibition, we believe, that we first saw Siemens employ the electric arc for the reduction of the refractory metals, and it was this which first enabled Marsden to obtain crystals of carbon from sugar and silver. Experiments have recently been repeated and amplified by Moissan which have added immensely, not only to the history of the properties of this universal element, but to our knowledge of the properties of the king of gems. It is also interesting to note that Moissan has been led to make numerous experiments on the dissolution of the Kimberley "blue ground," which may perhaps be put to practical use at the diamond mines. In some of his experiments he used cast iron and in others silver for the reduction of the carbon. With iron and carbon of sugar at a temperature of 1,000deg. centigrade he obtained graphite and carbon; and at 3,000deg. centigrade graphite alone. Taking advantage of the pressure obtained by first cooling the outside of his iron cylinders by plunging them into cold water till they were red hot, and then letting the inside mass cool slowly from a temperature of 3,000deg. centigrade, he was able to let the carbon crystalise out slowly under pressure, with the result of producing veritable diamonds! Next came the task of getting them out of the iron, which was by no means easy, as the metal refused to be cut up. It therefore had to be dissolved away, together with everything else, except the diamonds; a process almost as difficult as the production of the diamond. When this was effected there were left behind tiny little crystals of almost microscopic size of carbon in the form of diamond, and having the physical and chemical properties of that gem, being in fact real diamonds, although artificially produced. Whether the modern discoveries will be further extended and the production of diamonds in paying quantities become a possibility no one can say. There are many operations performed to-day for a few pence, which cost in the first instance ten, and perhaps fifty times as much to perform as Moissan has spent on the whole of his experiments, which include a number of other essays besides the making of diamonds. There are already to our knowledge experiments being performed, which are improvements upon those of Moissan, and no one can say in how short a time the desired end will be reached. But with equal truth no one can say that the economic production of diamonds artificially is any nearer an accomplished fact than it was when the experiments of the Scottish chemists made society tremble at the prospective decline in the value of its treasured heirlooms.

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The old-established firm of C. Payton and Sons—Pepper, Payton and Co., T. Acott and Co.—have completed endless novelties of a comprehensive character, some moderate in value, others most costly and beautiful. It is altogether unnecessary to attempt a description of the various designs, either in bracelets, brooches, earrings, necklets, rings, or pins; suffice it to say that they rank with the firm's very best productions.

Something like a Mirror.—There is an exhibit at the World's Fair of a searchlight, said to be of 375,000,000 candle power. But the chief feature, the mirror, appears to have been beyond Cousin Jonathan. This had to be made in Paris; it is sixty inches in diameter, three and a-quarter inches thick at the edges, and one-sixteenth of an inch at the centre; it weighs 800 lb.

Increase of the Russian Duties.—We are informed that the Russian Government has decided to adopt a "maximum" tariff on goods coming from countries which do not extend the "most favored" nation's rates—what that may mean we confess we hardly know—as we hear from the trade that British goods will be most affected. The duties on gold, silver, and platinum goods, watches, jewelry, and musical instruments will be increased by 30 per cent.

A Compliment from Cousin Jonathan.—One of the largest trade journals in America, in speaking of the key with which Queen Victoria opened the Imperial Institute, remarks: "Next to St. Peter's key, the key presented to Queen Victoria on the occasion of the recent opening of the Imperial Institute, is probably the most interesting and valuable the world has ever heard of. It is a piece of exquisite workmanship." It is a little vexatious that our contemporary does not describe the key which takes the precedence, so that we might estimate its claim to priority.

To See Ourselves As Others See Us.—A Nebraska jeweler having "done" England, wrote his impressions in a leading trade journal. He says: "The profits will average about 40 per cent., but the prices for work are generally less than half those obtained by us. The goods are not in the same demand as with us, and the people are less showy than ours. The wearing of much jewelry would be considered loud and vulgar. The English ridicule the idea of children wearing diamonds, or ladies wearing them for anything but evening dress; this custom naturally interferes with the aggregate volume of diamond business."

Modern Watch-making.

AS EXEMPLIFIED AT THE PRESCOT FACTORY.

BY T. P. HEWITT.

(Manager of the Prescot Watch Factory.)

(A paper read before the British Association Meeting, Nottingham, September, 1893.)

WATCHES, I need not tell you, are not new articles in the world, but are the product of many generations of men of skill and science.

I do not propose to take you through the different classes of watches, but may just point to the fact that those now made with Harrison's compensation balance, Huygen's flat, or Brequet's over coil balance spring, and Mudge's lever escapement, are the best time-keepers for portable purposes that have yet been invented; therefore Englishmen claim national recognition for many of the leading principles on which modern watches are constructed.

The making of watches has progressed onwards from the man who designed and constructed each watch, to the division of the parts to specialists, and thus watchmaking became a trade of many branches. These were mostly confined to particular localities; thus while London, Coventry, and other towns finished out watches and made cases, Prescot was exclusively confined to the movement and kindred branches. Before the introduction of machinery, these several branch workmen through rivalry and competition often became highly skilled, and thus the work possessed an artistic merit that their then known machinery could not hope to achieve. It was a common dogma among such workmen that watches could never be made by machinery, and although the mechanic ridiculed this idea, the first watches it produced went far to prove the old artisans' statement, as they were far behind, in point of finish and excellence, those made by the old watchmaker with his hand tools and acquired skill. Although this conflict waged for years, there has been a gradual fusion of ideas, and it is now fully recognised on all sides that with accurate and careful modelling, together with the advancement in machinery for making the parts in duplicate, watches can be made possessing a far higher average of efficiency than hand work could hope to achieve. In the domain of watch manufacturing there is the powerful factor of public fashion, which can neither be limited nor controlled. It wants watches almost at the price of buttons; and demands time to the fraction of a second, and, indeed, not content with the wearing of watches in the pockets, straps them on wrists, and dangles them in pendants from various positions. Since the introduction of the dynamo it carries them into intense magnetic fields, and wants them non-magnetic. It also asks for innumerable varieties and sizes down to atrociously small and thin watches. Under these conditions the modern watch manufacturer is compelled to employ all the agencies with which scientific art and mechanical skill can surround him. He designs his movements with the assistance of a mathematician, who determines the angles of the escapement, the weight and size of the balance in relation to the train and mainspring, and proves the correct forms of the terminal curves of the balance spring. The watchmaker immediately says that these angles and curves may be all very well theoretically, but allowance must be made for articles that have to undergo so many variable trials, such as those to which watches are submitted, while his mechanic stands aside and insists on a model that will lend itself to easy and cheap construction. The artistic workman also asks that the parts shall be made in such forms as will allow some display of finish, so that the eye may not be offended.

Well, compromise is the only solution of all these individually justifiable, if perplexing, conditions. The limitation of its size and the shocks and jerks to which a watch is subjected, compel us to use constructions that are not strictly theoretically perfect, such as, for instance, pinions with too few teeth. By introducing Mudge's lever escapement, which is proved by years of trial to be the best for a portable timepiece, we lose an amount of power that the chronometer or other kinds would conserve. Again, we are forced to use the best invented, if not strictly perfect, methods of overcoming the effects of temperature. One of the old characteristics of English watches has almost entirely succumbed through the introduction of keyless watches, as it was a difficult and expensive piece of mechanism to apply stem winding motion to watches made with fusees: while on the other hand, a going barrel lends itself to easy and cheap keyless attachments. Therefore the fusee is almost a thing of the past in keyless watches. I am prepared to hear some difference of opinion as to the utility of fusees in watches, but at the same time I cannot but lament that such a beautiful mechanical method for equalising the force of the mainspring should be squeezed out of existence by these two means, which have nothing to do with its intrinsic value as an aid to accurate timekeeping in watches. These, with other desiderata I might mention, compel us to admit that mathematical precision is not yet fully attained, although the results may not leave much margin for improvement when, as Lord Kelvin has said, "There is nothing in the whole of scientific art ever known, in the application of mechanics applied for useful purposes of mankind, that has been a more splendid success than has watchmaking."

Having determined the style of watch to be made, we make drawings fifty times enlarged of the watch as a whole and of the several parts. The next thing is to transfer each of the positions to a master plate. This is done by a machine specially designed for the purpose, which might be described as on the polar co-ordinate principle. With regard to measurements, I may say our company has adopted the $\frac{1}{2500}$ of an inch as a unit of linear measurements, and degrees and minutes of angular measurements. If the calculations are correct, we are assured by the use of this machine that the pitch circles will roll on each other and that the escapement will have its angles reproduced accurately from the design. The selection and construction of the machinery for watchmaking is a large field for the mechanic, and, although there are makers of standard machines for many of the processes, there are innumerable requirements which are special to the particular watch it is proposed to construct; therefore a tool-room is of paramount necessity, and has to be elaborately furnished so as to be capable of executing the most complicated machinery.

It is in this department that technical knowledge and mechanical skill are required to the fullest extent. The punches and dies we now use are made not only to stamp out the form but must when necessary pierce and bend with the same stroke. These are often made in pairs so that the fractured edge may be smoothed by a second operation, which cut must not exceed in any part more than $\frac{1}{1000}$ of an inch. The fine adjustment required entails the tools to be made each in a separate press, which is called a sub-press, the power press simply striking the blow. The building of some of these compound punch tools, even when assisted by all the aids of the most modern tool shop, is probably one of the most intricate mechanical operations performed. The turning of the parts of the watch is done where practicable by automatic machinery which is designed so as to do as many operations as possible without re-chucking. The pinions and staffs

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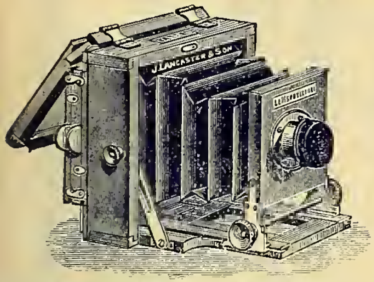
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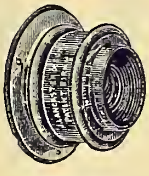
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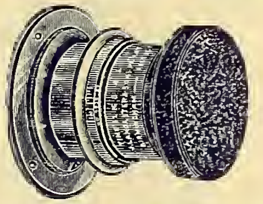
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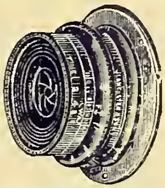
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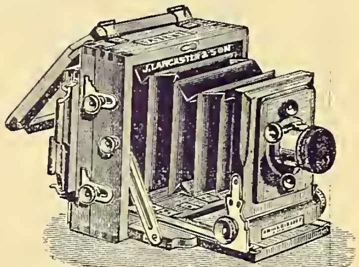
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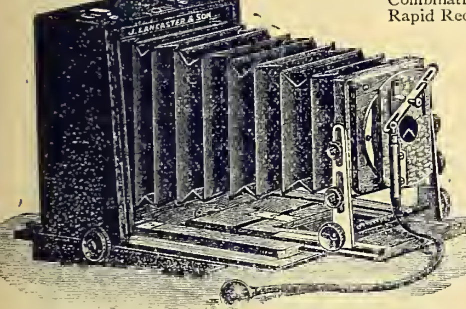
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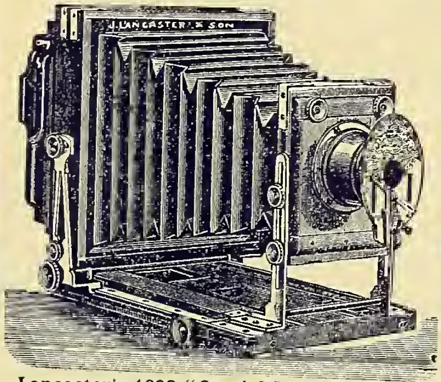
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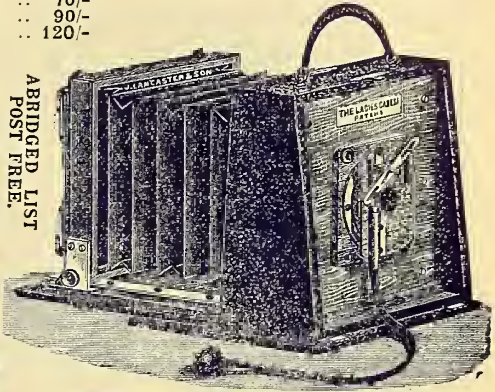

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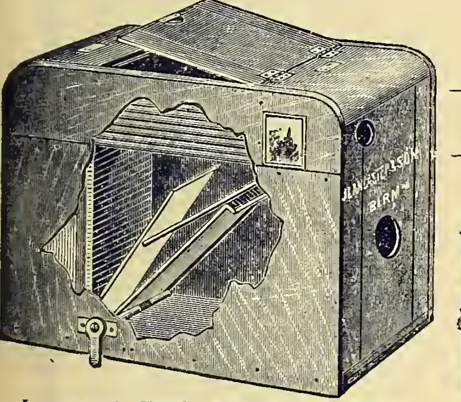
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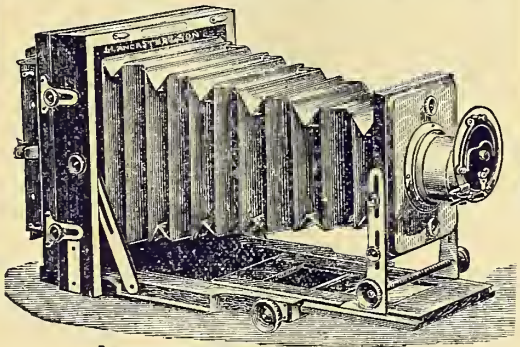
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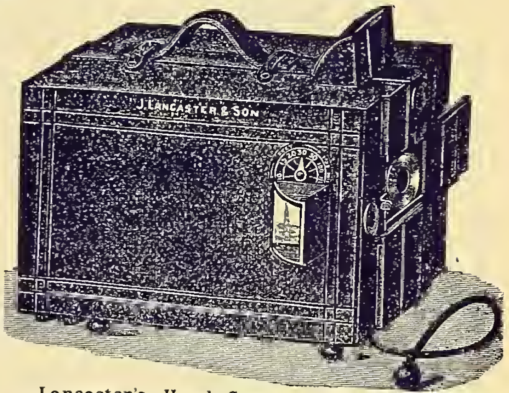

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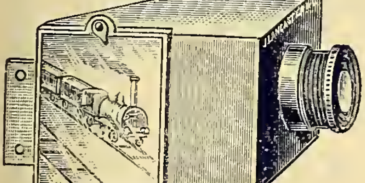
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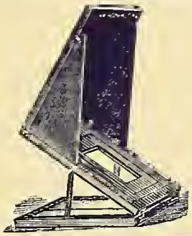
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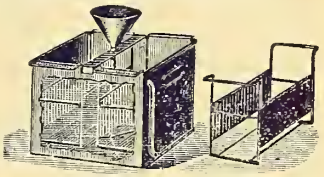
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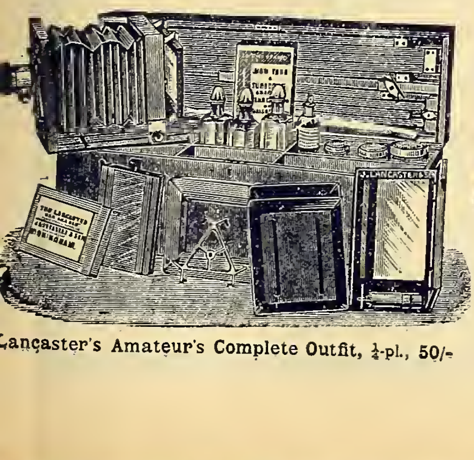
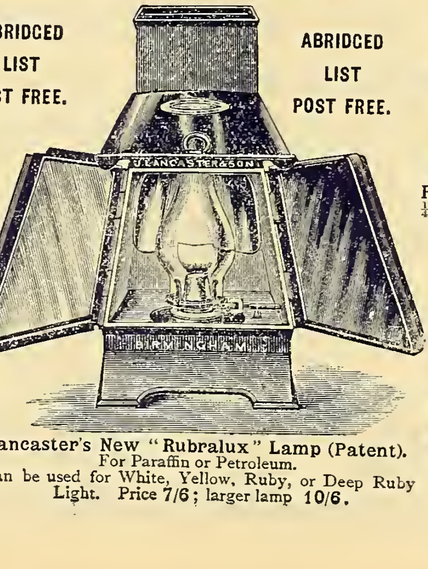

Lancaster's Amateur's Complete Outfit, ½-pl., 50/-



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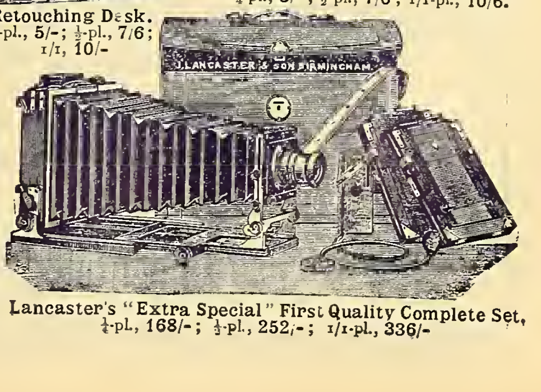

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SAFES.

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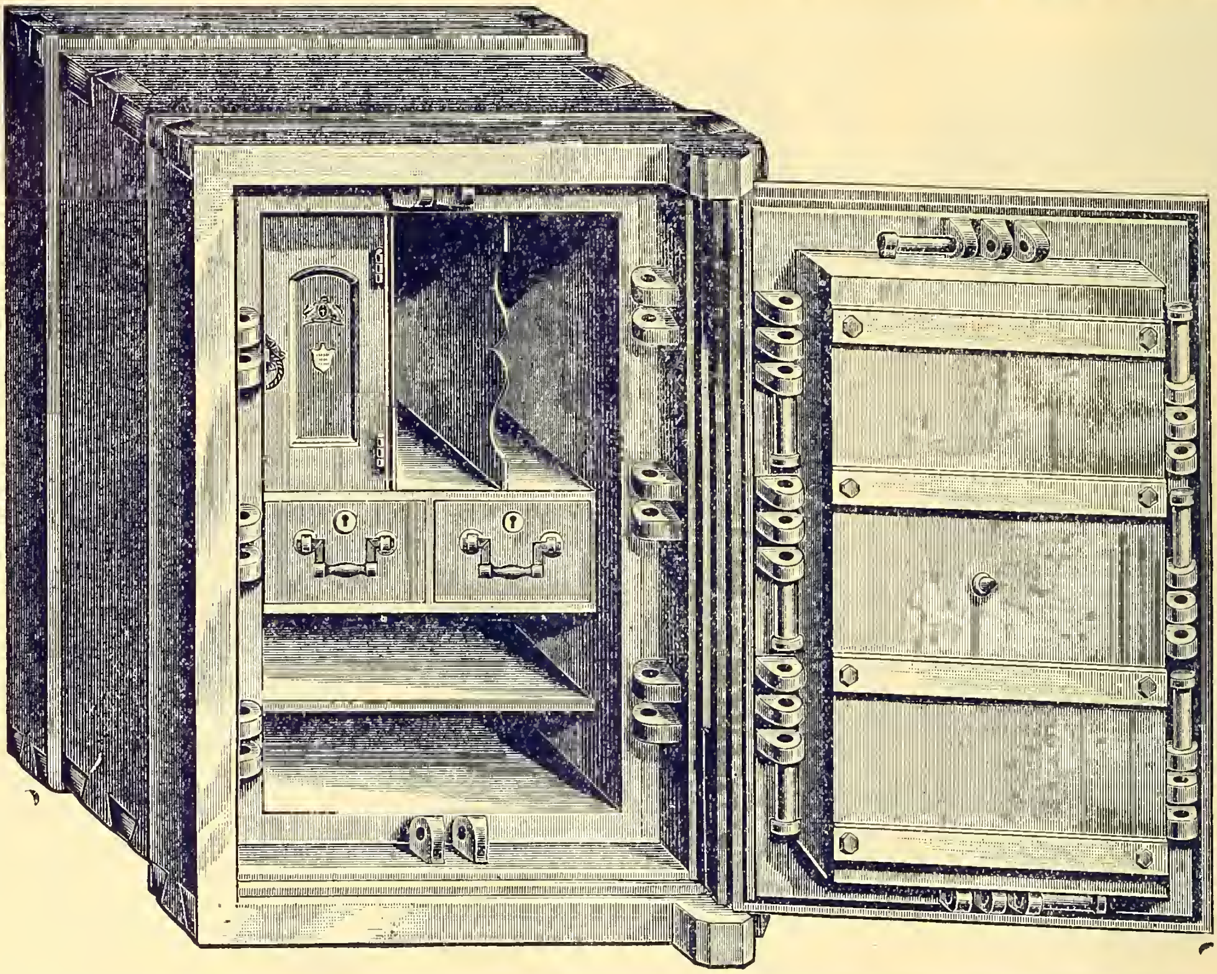

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THE "SICKER" PATENT being the most secure Bolt ever invented, is specially recommended for

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SILVERSMITHS, DIAMOND MERCHANTS,
and BULLION DEALERS.

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Oxford Street,
BIRMINGHAM.

are all turned up on their own centres, after being roughed out; therefore the maintenance of the angle of the centres is of paramount importance. We have adopted 60deg., and have constructed a machine for grinding the turning tools accurately to this angle. This enables us to transfer the parts from one machine to the other, and at the same time keep the measurements correct. With regard to gauging we have instituted throughout the factory examining rooms where all the work is sent for inspection after each operation; the allowable inaccuracy is one point in the gauge on either side, which, of course, amounts to $\frac{2}{2500}$ of an inch. The gauges are of different constructions so as to be convenient and expeditious for the particular piece to be handled. The pinions are cut by automatic machines which are constructed with three spindles so that the first cutter slits the spaces only, the second forms the tooth, and the third smooths it. Afterwards they are passed through the fire and hardened and tempered. I may here say that hardening the steel parts is always a source of loss to watchmakers. We have tried various methods, but up to the present we can only claim partial success as we always get a percentage that go out of true and which have to be discarded or set true by expensive skilled labor. The leaves are then polished by automatically reciprocating machines. The wheels are cut in stacks by flycutters, which are ground up to the form in an epicycloid machine and are afterwards centred and stacked on to the pinions.

(*To be Continued.*)

Our Unwrought Materials.

Another Record for the Randt Output.

THE gold output at the Witwatersrandt for August has again beaten all records, having reached the grand total of 136,069 ounces, being an increase of about 10,000 ounces over the previous month; and one-third of the corresponding month of last year. "Advance, South Africa, the land of gold and diamonds!"

Pearl-divers and Diving-dresses.

WE have previously called attention to the fact that laws in some places have been made against the use of the diving-dress. Naturally the natives in many parts regarded with some jealousy the efficiency of the dress over the old naked methods. When the result of a day's work with the modern appliances was compared with that of a whole fleet of natives, it became evident that the former would very soon oust the latter, and in the name of the protection of the fisheries from exhaustion, laws were passed prohibiting its use. Now, however, the British Consul at Tahiti informs us that a reactionary opinion has set in since it has shown that when the dress is used the "oysters" are opened directly they are taken out of the water,and their contents—which in the season embraces the "spawn"—reconsigned to the watery element, thus giving it a chance of fructification. In the other case the "oysters" are all taken ashore, and their contents either eaten or allowed to rot. That the former method has the results claimed for it has now been fully established by experiments where the prohibitory laws are not in operation. Thus on the Paumotu Islands, shell has been found not only to improve but to increase under the use of the diving dress. It is high time so valuable a commodity as mother-o'-pearl and the mollusca that produce it were made the subject of scientific investigation. Of these creatures we know next to nothing, and the whole process of pearl secretion is for the most part hypothetical. Yet see what untold wealth of to-day is represented by pearls. The great work already done by our recently introduced Marine Biological stations in this country ought to convince us of the good that would follow were such investigations conducted at the above archipelago. We should be sure to get at least a much larger and better supply of mother-o'-pearl, to say nothing about the gems of the ocean.

Nothing but the Superlative for Cousin Jonathan.

A PARAGRAPH is going the rounds of the American press, and will probably reach us shortly, to the effect that the largest and most valuable cat's-eye is owned by a Mexican lady. It weighs 170 carats, and is worth £2,500. This gem, it is said was discovered in Ceylon by a laborer in a cartload of gravel, at which time it weighed 475 carats; the wily Cingalese is reported to have parted with his treasure for 30 rupees. Subsequently it got into the hands of the present owner, who had it cut. We thus see that the estimate of its value is entirely untested, and in all probability would be dealt rather roughly with in an open market. With reference, however, to its being the largest we can speak in more confidence. Before us at the present moment is a slab sawn off a beautiful honey-brown Cingalese cat's-eye, which originally weighed over 600 carats, while there are several very fine cat's-eyes known of over 200 carats; one was sold some nine years ago for £3,000.

Aluminium Bank Notes.

SIR HENRY BESSEMER'S proposition to make "bank notes," or rather bank tokens of the feather metal is not likely to be entertained; as although a coin made of the metal the size of a florin would weigh less than a sixpence; the metal is so easily worked that it would offer such a temptation to forgers. Notwithstanding that it is pointed out that there is about £35,000 a year presumably lost by the destruction of notes, public safety is not thereby imperilled, as the destroyers or mislayers bear the loss; but with the metal tokens, which could so easily be made, no one would feel safe.

An Aluminium House.

AMONGST the various uses to which the feather metal is being put, is one shown by one of the World's Fair exhibits, which is in the form of an aluminium house. Of course, we do not dream of ever visiting a city built of this metal, or that it will ever be used for domiciliary purposes. Still wherever lightness is a great requisite (such as in scientific and philosophical instruments, or where equipments have to be carried by the owner, as in exploring and such like engagements), we may be sure that the light metal will oust all its older rivals, and that in the very near future. This fact should be kept in mind in buying large stocks of goods in the heavier metals.

Precious Metals of the United States.

THE output of the precious metals in the gold and silver States and Territories for the first half of the year were exceptionally large. What the last—so far as silver is concerned—will be, we cannot say, but of course the suspended state, consequent upon the low price of silver, will have a very curtailing effect. From 1792 to 1892 the aggregate production of gold was 5,633,908,000dol., and silver 5,104,961,000dol. Of the former, 3,582,605,000dol. were coined, and of the latter, 4,042,700,000dol.

Gold Production in Russia.

THE official statistics of the production of gold in Russia in 1892 show that the output of the mines has been greatly increased by the improvement of technical appliances. The production of the precious metal has reached a total of no less than 2,601 puds, as compared with 2,382 puds in 1891, and only 2,041 puds in 1885. Taking the value of the pud on the average at 14,104 roubles, there is a total of 36,670,000 roubles, or upwards of £5,000,000.

RECENTLY a horse bolted down the Parade at Leamington, and rushed into the window of the Jewelers' Alliance, smashing glass woodwork, and stock to the value of £200.

In and Out of the Courts

Successful Extensive Burglary at Bristol.

Just as we were going to press with our last issue, the premises of Messrs. Parsons and Son, jewelers, of High-street, Bristol, were successfully burglarised and goods to the value of £700 carried off. The shop in question, a lock-up one, had attracted the attention of the crooks, who after having become acquainted with its topography, went up the passage of the adjoining shop, and climbing to the roof, crawled along the roof of Messrs. Parsons' premises, removed some tiles, and thus obtained an entry into the garret. Passing through a trap door, they gained admittance to the shop, where they leisurely helped themselves to the contents of the window, showing great predilection for articles of the yellow metal. It is supposed they must have been disturbed as they left by the way they came, leaving no trace behind them. Nor has any clue yet been discovered. The stock is insured in the Goldsmiths' and General Burglary Insurance Association.

Wholesale Boy Burglars.

No less than nine boys, varying in age from twelve to fifteen, were recently apprehended for breaking into the shop of Thomas Sowerby, 82, Lime-street, Liverpool, and stealing therefrom five watches, several chains, and a number of other articles. It appears that an entrance was made by breaking the bars which protected the window. Two of the boys kept watch outside whilst the others committed the robberies.

Bravo, Policeman!

About half-past two in a recent morning a Leyton policeman, seeing three suspicious characters loitering about, demanded their business. Noticing one had no boots he proceeded to search him, and finding housebreaking implements upon him succeeded in taking him to the police station. Subsequently it transpired that Henry Scott, jeweler, of Leyton Green, had been disturbed in his slumbers. Proceeding towards his workshops in the rear he discovered that the door between them and his scullery had been wedged. Nothing had been removed from the shop, but a pair of boots was found in the yard. Another man was subsequently arrested, and both were committed for trial.

Further Burglaries.

Early on the morning of the 14th ult. an entrance was effected into the premises of Messrs. Jackson and Son, Main-street, Sedbergh, Yorks., by breaking a pane of glass. The thief carefully selected all the valuables, which include some twenty gold and silver watches, and a quantity of jewelry. With this swag he was able to get clear away.

In the small hours of the 5th ult. a lock-up shop, owned by R. M. Foster, Barkerend-road, Bradford, was entered by a skylight in the rear. Fortunately all the valuables were packed away out of sight, and only a small amount of jewelry therefore stolen. Goods were, however, thrown about greatly, and a good deal of damage perpetrated. Appearances point to the probability that the thieves were disturbed.

"From information I receive," is often translated at a great discount, but it would appear that a Barnsley constable, the other evening, absolutely *did* receive information that a man was out to commit a burglary at a certain jeweler's. Thither he hied, and found the would-have-been thief secreted in adjoining premises. The man was sentenced to a month's hard labor.

Attempting to Pass a Worthless Cheque.

A young Peruvian, name George Lambcke, recently paid to Messrs. Payne and Co., High-street, Tunbridge Wells, a cheque, in payment for jewelry, and upon Lloyds refusing to cash it, the distinguished visitor was given into custody. Medical evidence was called to show his mind defective, and he was discharged.

A Boy Robs a Watch Job Case.

On the 8th ult. the shop of J. J. Reese, Portmadoc, received a visit from a boy of twelve summers, at a time when the attendant had retired into the kitchen. While the latter was in the vicinity of the larder he heard someone in the shop, and going thither saw a lad standing at the door, whom he asked what he wanted. "A penny watch" being the reply, a curt answer of "We don't sell them" was considered to end the case. Subsequently, however, it was discovered that a watch had been taken from the job case. Ultimately the boy was caught offering the watch for sale, and was sentenced to fourteen days' hard labor, and four years in a reformatory.

He Said he had Customers for them.

Recently Messrs. Mappin Bros., of Regent-street, W., allowed Andrew Paterson, thirty-nine, described as a traveller, of Burntwaite-road, Walham Green, to take away two diamond rings and other valuables to the extent of £100, upon the assertions that he had customers for them. The articles, however, were subsequently found pawned. It was pleaded that hitherto prisoner had borne an unblemished character, but had recently become a victim to betting. In passing sentence of six months' hard labor upon him, the magistrate remarked upon betting being a fruitful source of crime.

Jewelry Dealings at Public Bars.

At the last London County Sessions, William Dedman, forty-three (shopman), formerly traveller to Messrs. Lawson, Hatton Garden, was sentenced to four months' hard labor for converting to his own use a ring value of £40, entrusted to him to sell by C. J. Saunders. It transpired that, although prisoner had had a large quantity of goods from prosecutor without paying for them, the latter was willing to let him have the ring in question at the bar of the Criterion. Losses entailed with these sort of transactions merit but little sympathy.

Tracing Home Jewelry Thefts at Birmingham.

For the last six weeks H. J. Goldsmid, 102, Vyse-street, has been painfully conscious of the fact that sundry articles of jewelry were mysteriously disappearing, and although quite unable to form an opinion as to the thief, had instituted inquiries respecting certain stones. While Chief Inspector Van Hilden was in the shop of D. M. Davis, Livery-street, a man came in and offered two diamonds for sale. The representative of the law here considered he ought to know something of how the would-be vendor became possessed of the sparklers, an opinion with which the other did not agree. However, he was arrested, and pawntickets found upon him relating to other property, which turned out to be some that had been stolen from 102, Vyse-street. Upon him was also found a note from "Killie Roberts," on one of Mr. Goldsmid's billheads. Both prisoners were then charged and committed to the Sessions, bail being allowed, themselves in £40 each, and two securities of £20 each.

An Ill-Proportioned Sentence.

Recently a railway porter named Charles Oates was sentenced at Manchester to six months' imprisonment for stealing a parcel of jewelry, the property of Mayall Bros., Unett-street, Birmingham. This small sentence was passed in the face of the fact that at the prisoner's house were found a very large quantity of bags, watches, chains, clothing and other stolen property! Let us hope the owners of all these will take proceedings against such a pest.

A Firm "Well-Known in Court."

At St. Helens County-court recently M. Blumberg, of the firm of Henry Wolff and Co., general dealers, Manchester, was sued by William Worrall, of Stanhope-street, for 17s. 6d. commission due. From the evidence of plaintiff it appears about this time last year Blumberg lent him some money, and then appointed him agent for him, saying that he would give him 14 per cent. on all sales of watches and jewelry, and 10 per cent. on wringing machines, etc. They had no written agreement. He sold a watch, but never received the 17s. 6d. for commission. Defendant had paid an amount into court representing 5 per cent. commission. His Honor said the evidence for plaintiff was overwhelming, and he gave judgment for the amount claimed.

The Case of Henry Gilpin.

At the Birmingham Police-court on the 6th ult., Henry Gilpin, forty-five, jeweler, Ormbersley-road, was charged on behalf of the Treasury with having obtained upwards of £20 by fraud—he being an undischarged bankrupt—from William Ernest Patterson, of Warstone-lane. It was stated by the prosecution that seven or eight years ago the accused lived at Sheffield, and on June 7th, 1886, filed his petition in the County-court there. A receiving order was made against him, and he was adjudicated a bankrupt. He appeared to have passed his examination within a few weeks of that date, and in August of the same year he came to Birmingham, where he commenced trading as Gilpin and Co. For some years he seemed to have been fairly prosperous, but last year he was unsuccessful. This year he filed his petition in the Birmingham Court, and then it was discovered for the first time that he was an undischarged bankrupt, and that he had obtained credit to the amount of £20 and upwards. The facts of the case were laid before the Treasury, and an order had been made in the County-court proceedings at Sheffield for the present prosecution to be instituted. Defendant was committed for trial at the next Quarter Sessions. Bail was allowed, accused in £40 and two securities of £20 each.

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CALENDARS, REPEATERS, CHRONOGRAPHS, AND MARINE CHRONOMETERS.

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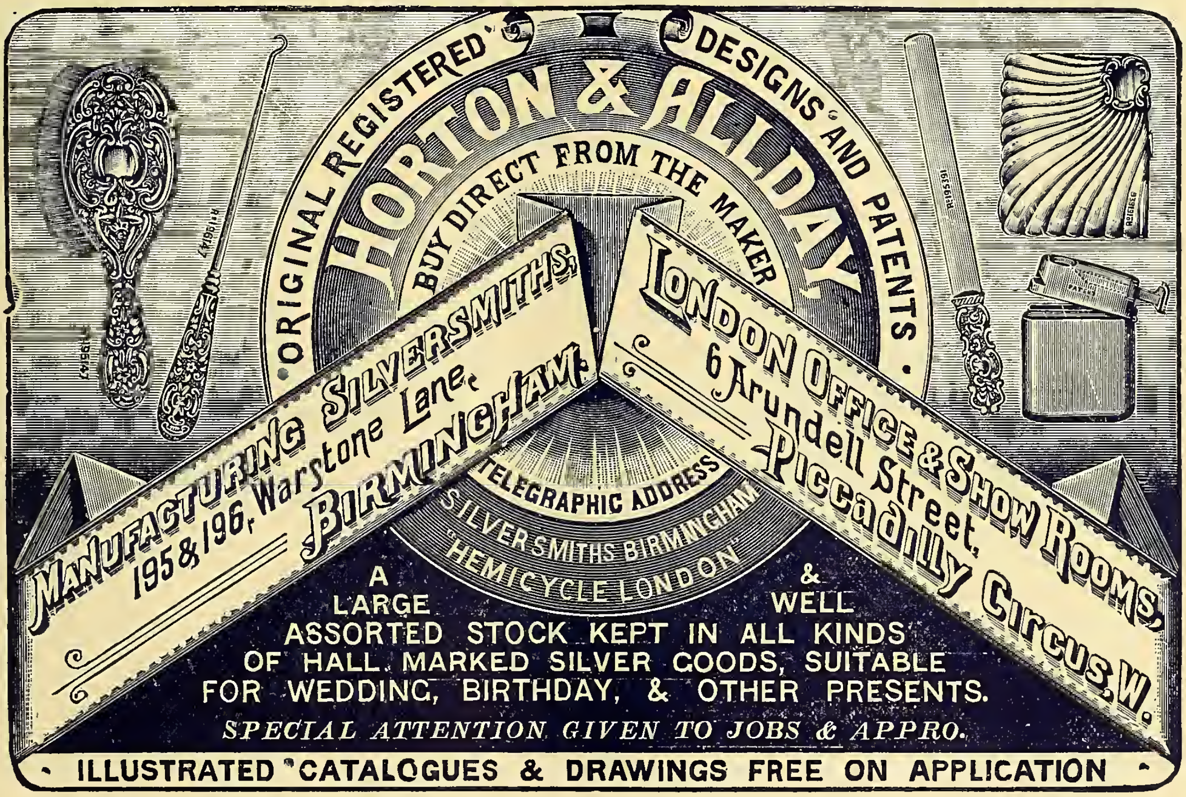

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Maker to the Austrian and Italian Governments.

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EVERY DESCRIPTION OF HIGH-CLASS KEYLESS and ORDINARY WATCHES.

Chronometers with Mr. Kullberg's new Balances and other improvements have stood the First or Second **TWENTY** times in the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, out of over **540** competing Chronometers. At the Sydney Exhibition, 1880, two First Class Awards were obtained; and although the Watches were not expected to be entered for competitive trial, they obtained, at the Government Observatory at Sydney, higher marks than those of any other Exhibitor.

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W. H. WALTER,
Wholesale Jeweler,

SILVER-MOUNTED PAPER KNIVES WITH TORTOISESHELL, IVORY, AND MOTHER OF PEARL BLADES.

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IMPORTER OF NOVELTIES IN

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FRENCH, ROMAN, AND ORIENT PEARLS, PASTE JEWELRY, BUCKLES, HAIR ORNAMENTS, &c.
SOVEREIGN PURSES IN GOLD, SILVER AND METAL.

SILVER-MOUNTED TOILET BOTTLES AND SILVER-MOUNTED BRUSHES OF ALL KINDS.

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A Large Assortment of Finest Steel Jewelry always in Stock.

STOCK WELL ADAPTED TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF JEWELERS CULTIVATING SUPERIOR CLASS OF TRADE.

M. NORDMANN & Co.,

Manufacturers & Importers of Watches,

101, HATTON GARDEN, LONDON, E.C.

A large and varied assortment of all kinds of Gold, Silver, and Metal Watches always kept in Stock.

T. M. WHITTON & SONS,

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Clocks, Watches, Gold and Silver Jewelry. All kinds of Fancy Goods. Watch and Clockmakers' Materials.

Watch Glasses, Main Springs, Hands, Watch and Clock Oil. Paste, Steel, and Jet Brooches and Earrings. Silk, Horn, Vulcanite, Steel, and Black Bead Alberts. Spectacles, Eye-Glasses, Reading Glasses. Table Cutlery.

THE MANUFACTURERS' WHOLESALE HOUSE FOR—

Walton's Specialities, Jones' Castle Links, Collapsible Drinking Cup, Mexican Silver Alberts.

N. C. Reading's Albo-Silver Chains and Jewelry, Birch's Keys, Dorcas Thimbles, the Gripper Thimble. Barrett's Coin Mounts. All other Coin Mounts. Progress Screws. British United Clocks.

E. P. Tea Sets, Salad Bowls, Liqueur Frames, Cruets, Sugars, Inkstands, Biscuits, Prize Cups, Nickel Silver and E. P. Spoons and Forks, Fish Eaters, Dessert Sets, Fish Carvers.

BROOCHES, EARRINGS, STUDS, SPECTACLES, JEWELRY, &c.

HAVING NO TRAVELLERS WE INVITE YOU TO CALL OR SEND AND COMPARE OUR PRICES.

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EVERY DESCRIPTION OF TOOLS AND MATERIALS FOR WATCH AND CLOCKMAKERS AND JEWELERS.

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Orders and Jobs attended to same day as received. Catalogue Free on Application.

OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

BELL, Henry, *Watchmaker*, 26, Lower Ashley-road, Bristol, has been adjudicated, and the estate put into the hands of the Official Receiver. The debts are small, debtor, who has been in business fourteen years, admits that he has been insolvent for some time. The examination is set down for the 28th inst. at the Bristol Guildhall.

CUNNINGHAM, Robert William, *Jeweler*, 76, Oxford-street, Manchester, has been adjudicated, and the public examination set down for September 28th at the Manchester Court-house. The first meeting of creditors was held at Ogden's Chambers, Bridge-street, Manchester.

FLETCHER, F. W., *Watchmaker*, Cockermouth, has been publicly examined at the Cockermouth Bankruptcy Court. The statement of affairs showed gross liabilities amounting to £306; and the assets were estimated to produce £144. In reply to questions the debtor said he commenced business with a borrowed capital of £100, about three years ago. He was not solvent when he borrowed that amount, and it was still owing. His household expenses amounted to about 25s. per week. The debtor was allowed to pass.

HAMMOND, William George, *Watch Manufacturer*, Portland-terrace Chapel-fields, Coventry. The statement of affairs shows gross liabilities amounting to £966 7s. 8d., of which £955 14s. 1d. is expected to rank for dividend. The assets are estimated to produce £266 6s. 5d., leaving a deficiency of £689 7s. 8d. The debtor states he commenced business as a watch manufacturer twenty-nine years ago with a capital of £40, and that for many years he did a lucrative trade. He considers that for several years past the profits of his business have been gradually declining, and that during the last twelve months they were insufficient to cover household expenses. Debtor states that three years ago he had an excess of assets over liabilities of about £1,500. Amongst the creditors are:—Betteridge, T., Coventry, £10; Hammond, W. E., Junior, Coventry, £29; Hollis, E., Coventry, £97; Hunt, J. and Co., Prescot, £36 9s. 3d.; Harrold, C., and Co., Birmingham, £15 16s.

LEHNABEL, H., *Jeweler*, 18, High-street, Sydenham. The Official Receiver for the Greenwich district has now issued particulars under this bankruptcy, from which it appears that the gross liabilities amount to £490 14s. 1d., of which £306 5s. 1d. is due to unsecured creditors; to partly secured creditors £174; the value of the securities being returned at £7 10s., thus leaving a balance of £166 10s. to rank against the estate for dividend. The total liabilities expected to rank against the estate for dividend amount to £477 10s. 1d. The assets consist of stock in trade, cost £182, estimated to produce £130; trade fixtures, etc.. valued at £20; furniture valued at £5; book debts good, £1 3s.; total assets, £156 3s., from which £5 19s. has to be deducted for the claims of preference creditors payable in full, leaving nett assets at £150 9s., and a deficiency of £327 1s. 1d. The debtor alleges his failure to have been caused through want of capital, illness of wife and child, and heavy expenses consequent upon the flooding of his house through the bursting of a neighbor's water pipe. The report and observations of the Official Receiver are to the following effect:—The receiving order herein was made on a creditor's petition, the act of bankruptcy being the non-compliance with a bankruptcy notice, duly served on the debtor. Orders of adjudication and for the summary administration of the estate have been made. The debtor states that he commenced business as a watchmaker and jeweler, in March, 1889, with £50 capital, and that his gross profit for the last three years has been about 40 per cent. He first became aware of his insolvency about a month before the receiving order, when he called a private meeting of his creditors and offered them 6s. 8d. in the £, which was accepted. The debtor states he subsequently executed a deed of assignment, under which, however, the list of creditors was given last month.

MEDLAND, John Brandon, *Optician*, 141, Boro', London Bridge, and 13, York-street, Walworth-road. The first meeting of creditors in this case has taken place, and the debtor adjudicated, the matter being placed in the hands of the Official Receiver. Debtor attributes his loss to lack of trade and depreciation of stock. The debts are for the most part small, H. H. Sharland falling in for the lion's share, the whole aggregating to about £400. The assets are not expected to realise half that amount. Preferential creditors amount to £12 2s. 8d. Among the ordinary creditors are:—

		£	s.	d.
Nash, W. H.	London	30	0	0
Sharland, H. H.	,,	95	0	0
Wrench and Son	,,	11	4	2
McKenzie,—	Birmingham	60	0	0
Valentine, J., and Sons	Dundee	10	0	0
Hutchinson and Co.	Sheffield	20	3	8
Turton and Sons	,,	22	11	0
Fincham, D.	West Dulwich	10	4	7

MANNING, John, *Watchmaker*, 80, Boutport-street, Barnstaple. A receiving order in the above case was made on the 18th ult.

ORCHARD, Alfred, (Alfred Orchard Carter, trading as), *Optician*, 252, High-street, Exeter. The first meeting of the creditors interested herein took place on the 18th ult. at the Official Receiver's offices, Exeter. The debtor's summary of accounts showed liabilities amounting to £1,272 of which £915 was due to fully secured creditors. The assets were estimated to produce £205, thus leaving a deficiency of £152 1s. 4d. The debtor alleged his failure to have been caused through bad trade, ill health, and pressure by creditors. The estate was left in the hands of the Official Receiver.

ROBERTS, H., *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, late 281, Kentish Town-road, London, N.W., has filed a petition in the Court of Bankruptcy, which is set down for hearing at the High Court of Justice, on the 5th inst.

ROBERTS, William Alfred, *Jeweler and Silversmith*, 21, Bailey-street, Oswestry, has been adjudicated a bankrupt on his own petition. Debtor states that he commenced business in December, 1889, being put into business by his uncle, with a stock which is estimated at about £300. During the first six months of the year he engaged in bookmaking, by which he neither gained nor lost money. He attributes his insolvency to bad trade. The statement of affairs shows liabilities £177 10s. 9d., assets being estimated at £266 19s. 11d., showing a surplus of nearly £50. The Official Receiver, however, stated it was feared that the value of the stock had been considerably over-estimated.

SEAL, William, *Diamond Mounter*, 3, Pitsford-street, and 4, Lozells-street, Lozells, Birmingham. The first meeting of creditors in this case was held on the 15th ult., at the Official Receiver's offices, but a quorum not being present the meeting was adjourned for a week. The statement of affairs shows liabilities £263; assets £83. The debtor offers a composition of 7s. 6d. in the £ in each. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Devereaux and Co.	Birmingham	43	3	0
Westwood and Sons	,,	126	13	2
Appleby and Co.	,,	9	5	8
Bankers' Claims...		62	18	6

SPENCER, William James, *Optician*, 165 and 167, Gray's Inn-road, London. The above has been adjudicated a bankrupt. A receiving order was made on the 8th ult.

DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT.

BRAHAM, Philip, *Optician*, 1, St. Paul's Churchyard, London, E.C., and 6, George-street, Bath, has executed a deed of arrangement. Arthur Farlow, C.A., 4, King-street, Cheapside, being appointed trustee, with a committee of inspection. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £960, but the assets are valued at £1,530. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Hicks, J. J.	London	173	0	0
Newbold, A. W.	,,	104	0	0
Nitsche and Gunther	,,	15	0	0
Sharland, H. H.	,,	12	0	0
Howell, J., and Son	,,	53	0	0
Archer, R.	,,	12	0	0
Cetti, E.	,,	28	0	0
Little, W. J.	,,	12	0	0
Powell and Powell...	Bath	15	0	0
Wood, Martin	,,	11	0	0
King and Son	,,	13	0	0
Terry and Curd	,,	14	0	0
Grandys, —	,,	11	0	0
Braham, W., and Co.	Birmingham	112	0	0

DIXIE, Alfred John, *Jewel Case Maker* (A. J. Dixie and Co., trading as), 13, Wilmington-square, Clerkenwell, E.C., and Woodlands, Southgate, has assigned to J. H. Merrett, C.A., 15, Coleman-street, E.C., with a committe of inspection. The unsecured liabilities are put down at £385, with net assets at £400. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Simonnet, R., and Co.	London	108	0	0
Duffield and Co.	,,	20	0	0
Crow, W. R., and Son	,,	50	1	8

KNIGHT, LEWIS EDWIN, *Jeweler and General Dealer*, (L. E. KNIGHT AND CO., trading as), 21, NORTHGATE, BRADFORD, AND 23, OAKROYD-TERRACE, MANNINGHAM, has assigned to Isaac Senior, accountant, Leeds, and another. Secured creditors, £110; unsecured liabilities, £2,930; assets estimated at £787. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Fellheimer and Co.	London	390	0	0
Lazarus and Rosenfeld	,,	249	0	0
Kohnstan, M.	,,	203	0	0
David and Fulda	,,	143	0	0
Rolex, J.	,,	153	0	0
Lowenstein Bros.	,,	61	0	0
Hirsch Bros.	,,	78	0	0
Newmarks, Louis	,,	47	0	0
Harburg, Henry, and Co.	,,	48	0	0
Michael Bros.	,,	93	0	0
Mesginta, S.	,,	46	0	0
Lang, Jonas, and Co.	,,	35	0	0
Novelle, Gebruder	,,	26	0	0
Falck, L. P.	,,	27	0	0
Hirst, Pritchard, and Co.	,,	29	0	0
Levetus Bros.	Birmingham	78	0	0
Crompton, Robert	,,	21	0	0
Lowry Bros.	,,	21	0	0
Daniel and Arter	,,	34	0	0
Constantine and Floyd	,,	164	0	0
McClelland Bros.	,,	69	0	0
Knight, F. H.	Leeds	34	0	0
Wright, L. J.	Manchester	316	0	0
Allcard and Co.	Sheffield	34	0	0
Baum, Maurice	,,	30	0	0
McClory and Sons	,,	92	0	0
Ashbury, P., and Sons	,,	56	0	0
American German Clock Co.	Villinger	32	0	0

LEWISHON, LEON, *Diamond Merchant*, (LEWISHON AND CO., trading as), 23, PEMBRIDGE-GARDENS, and at ST. NICHOLAS-AT-WADE, near BIRCHINTON-ON-SEA, and HAYNE-STREET, CHARTERHOUSE-SQUARE, E.C., and at BERLIN (GERMANY), and in partnership with another at JOHN-STREET, NEW YORK (U.S.A.), has executed a deed of arrangement with a view to payment of a composition of 9s. in the £ by the following instalments: 4s. at three months, 2s. at six months, 1s. at nine months, 1s. at twelve months, and 1s. in fifteen months from date thereof, secured upon personal and real estate assigned to Lawrence Husluck, C.A., 17, Holborn Viaduct, E.C., with a committee of inspection. Secured creditors, £30,122. Unsecured liabilities, £102,052; assets estimated at £19,149. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Abrahams, L. and A.	London	6,556	0	0
Beith, J. M.	,,	1,143	0	0
Blydenstein, B. W., and Co.	,,	388	0	0
Brandeis, Goldschmidt, and Co.	,,	172	0	0
Dunkensbühler, A., and Co.	,,	809	0	0
Green, J.	,,	378	0	0
Hortsmann and Co.	,,	6,000	0	0
Hoarbleicher and Co.	,,	5,237	0	0
Henry, C. S., and Co.	,,	833	0	0
Jacob, E., and Co.	,,	1,500	0	0
Lazarus, Lewis, and Co.	,,	9,126	0	0
Litkie and Co.	,,	809	0	0
List, William, and Sons	,,	4,171	0	0
Loewenstein, Hoskins, and Co.	,,	521	0	0
Merton, H. R., and Co.	,,	126	0	0
Morrison, Kekewich, and Co.	,,	851	0	0
Meyer, Hermann	,,	302	0	0
Nerescheimer, E. A., and Co.	,,	281	0	0
Pearce, Sharpe, and Co.	,,	332	0	6
Rodriquez, D.	,,	302	0	0
Smith, Augustus	,,	434	0	0
Schiff, A. G., and Co.	,,	275	0	0
Solomon, J. H., and Co.	,,	624	0	0
Schwarzschild, Jacob	,,	886	0	0
Schaap, Hilburn, and Co.	,,	553	0	0
Schwann and Co.	,,	167	0	0
Sanders and Co.	,,	700	0	0
Sargant, W. T., and Sons	,,	395	0	0
Strauss, A., and Co.	,,	1,676	0	0
Schiff, H. M., and Co.	London	1,479	0	0
Triefus, S. and E.	,,	139	0	0
Tomkins and Son	,,	541	0	0
Beffie, J. M.	Amsterdam	571	0	0
Booleman and Co.	,,	338	0	0
Heilbut, H.	,,	771	0	0
Prins, M.	,,	550	0	0
Roeg, J. L.	,,	381	0	0
Rozeloar and Co.	,,	656	0	0
Sanders, J.	,,	394	0	0
Van Abbe, J. H.	,,	1,097	0	0
Van Wezel and Batavies	,,	309	0	0
Van Wezel, S. L.	,,	440	0	0
Weder and Rozeluar	,,	527	0	0
Daniels, M.	Antwerp	270	0	0
Hahn and Co.	,,	361	0	0
Rhodius, Richard, and Co.	,,	139	0	0
Mankiewiez, Hugo, and Co.	Berlin	360	0	0
Lewisham, Lassar	Frankfort-on-Main	5,880	0	0
Mainz, S.	Hamburg	173	0	0
Harmelin, Marcus	Leipsic	1,095	0	0
Frege and Co.	,,	287	0	0
Albrecht and Co.	Moscow	4,011	0	0
Loewe, J. A.	,,	168	0	0
Wogan, Otto	,,	3,808	0	0
Martin, Emile fils	Rennes	793	0	0
Schllüsser and Co.	St. Petersburg	9 327	0	0
Witt and Co.	,,	4 153	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS		15,628	0	0
CONTINGENT OR OTHER LIABILITIES		300	0	0

MORTIMER, CHARLES RICHARD, *Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Cycle Dealer*, STAITHE-STREET, WELLS, has assigned to G. G. Poppleton, C.A., 164, Aldersgate-street, E.C. The unsecured liabilities are £207. Estimated assets £127. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Troup, John, and Sons	London	110	0	0
Harris, Henry, and Co.	Birmingham	60	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS		20	0	0

NUTTER, JOHN THOMAS, *Jeweler*, 23, ST. JAMES-STREET, and 10, THORNY BANK, BURNLEY, has assigned to Frederick Foster, accountant, Thomas-street, Burnley, as Trustee. Unsecured liabilities are £200; assets are put down at the same amount. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Hirsch, Pritchard, and Co.	London	10	19	11
Burrows, Mrs.	Bradford	15	0	0
Constantine and Floyd	Birmingham	18	0	0
Foster, Frederick	Burnley	45	0	0
Higgin, W. H.	,,	20	0	0
Wolffe Bros.	Glasgow	32	0	0
Richards, John	Manchester	11	0	0

SUTTON, FREDRICK WILLIAM (CUTTS, SUTTON, AND SONS, trading as), *Optician*, QUEEN'S OPTICAL WORKS, DIVISION-STREET, 25, NEW SURREY-STREET, AND BROOMHILL-PLACE, SHEFFIELD, has executed a deed of assignment. George Gibson, accountant, Sheffield, is trustee. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £625, secured creditors £298, the net assets are stated to be £530. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Pastorelli and Rapkin	London	46	2	6
Wells and Lyon	,,	26	7	1
Pastorelli, A.	,,	35	14	11
Sharland, H. H.	,,	11	18	3
Calderara, S. and A.	,,	14	4	5
Headley, Birch, and Co.	Birmingham	15	13	8
Saunders, E.	,,	11	17	8
Poirson and Goldenstein	Paris	20	7	2
White, E. C. and C. J.	Sheffield	29	8	10
Sutton, H. J. L.	,,	14	0	0
Leader and Son	,,	16	1	9
Maxfield, H. O.	,,	40	0	0
Eaton, T. W., and Co.	,,	230	0	0

DISSOLUTIONS OF PARTNERSHIP.

BACHMANN, E. (HERMANN AND EMIL BACHMANN), *Imitation and Precious Stones Dealers*, 93, SPENCER-STREET, BIRMINGHAM, AND 16, RUE D'ENGHIEN, PARIS, August 21. Debts by H. Bachmann, who continues.

KOPLE, M. (MORRIS KOPLE AND MORRIS MAIZELLS), *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, 13, SMALLBROOK-STREET, AND 34, SUMMER-ROW, BIRMINGHAM, AND KOPLE AND CO., 122, BELGRAVE-GATE, LEICESTER, September 6th. Debts of the Birmingham business by M. Kople, and debts of the Leicester business by M. Maizells.

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THE CRITICS ON ALBO SILVER.

"The alloy registered under the name of 'Albo Silver is peculiarly suitable for the manufacture of Chains and Jewelry; it has the whiteness of grain silver, without a tinge of the yellow or the leady colour generally characteristic of alloys of this kind. Indeed, so highly was it reported on at the British Association Exhibition by the authorities of Mason College, that at their request samples in ingot and in a manufactured state were permanently deposited in the museum of that institution."—*The Watchmaker, Jeweler and Silversmith.*

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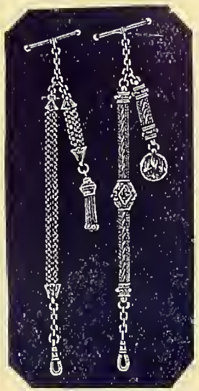

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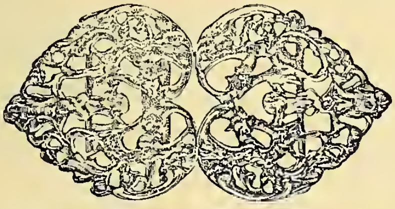

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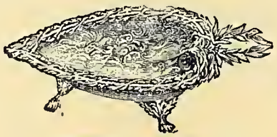

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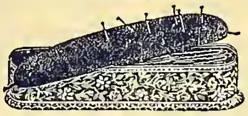

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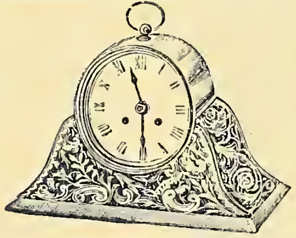

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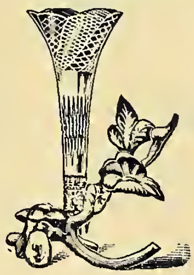

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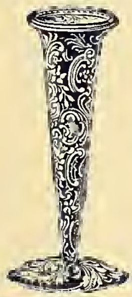

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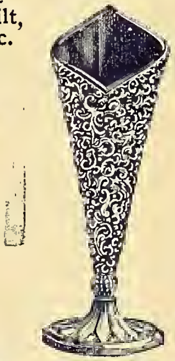

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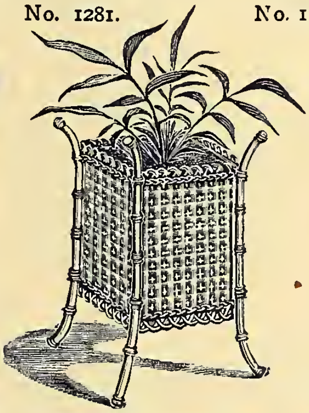

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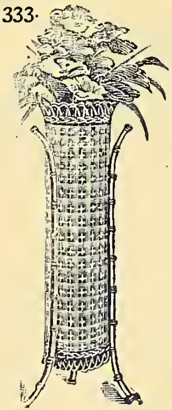

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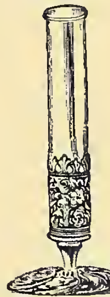

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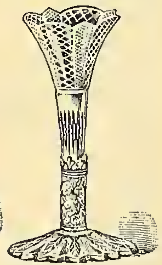

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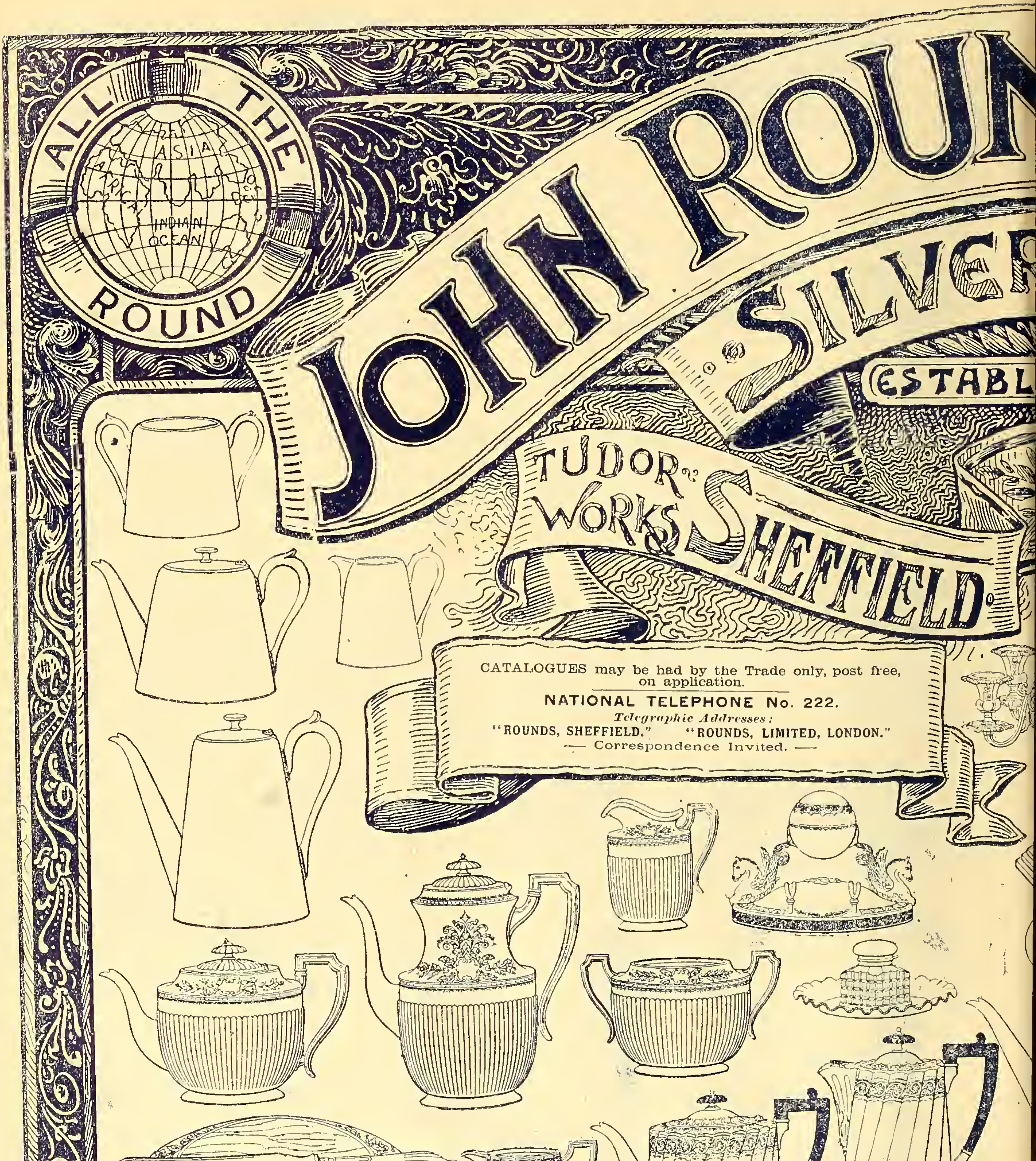
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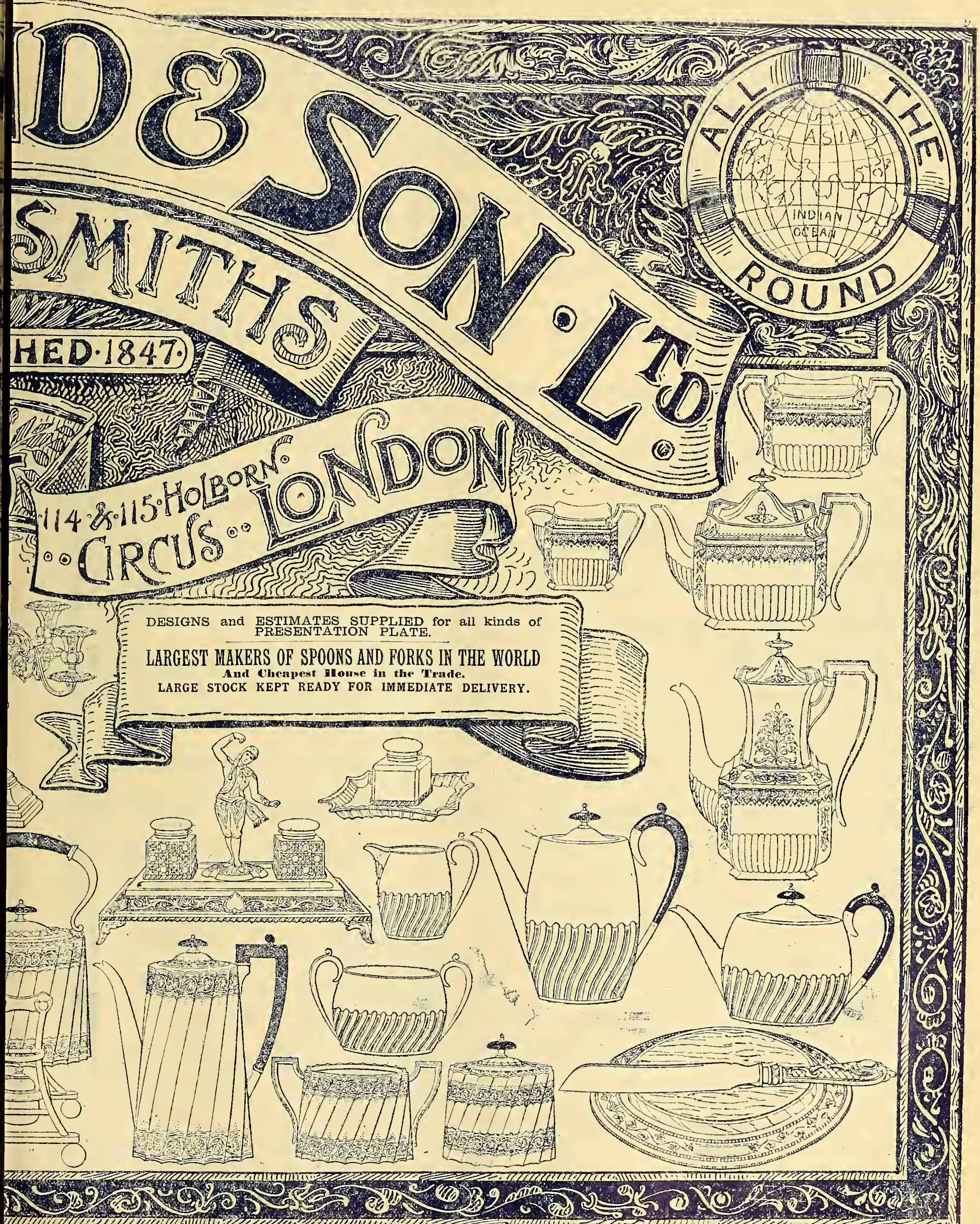
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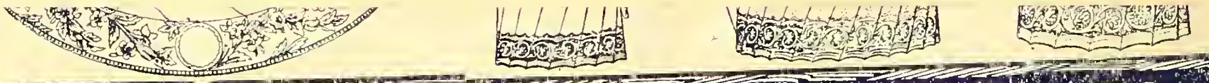

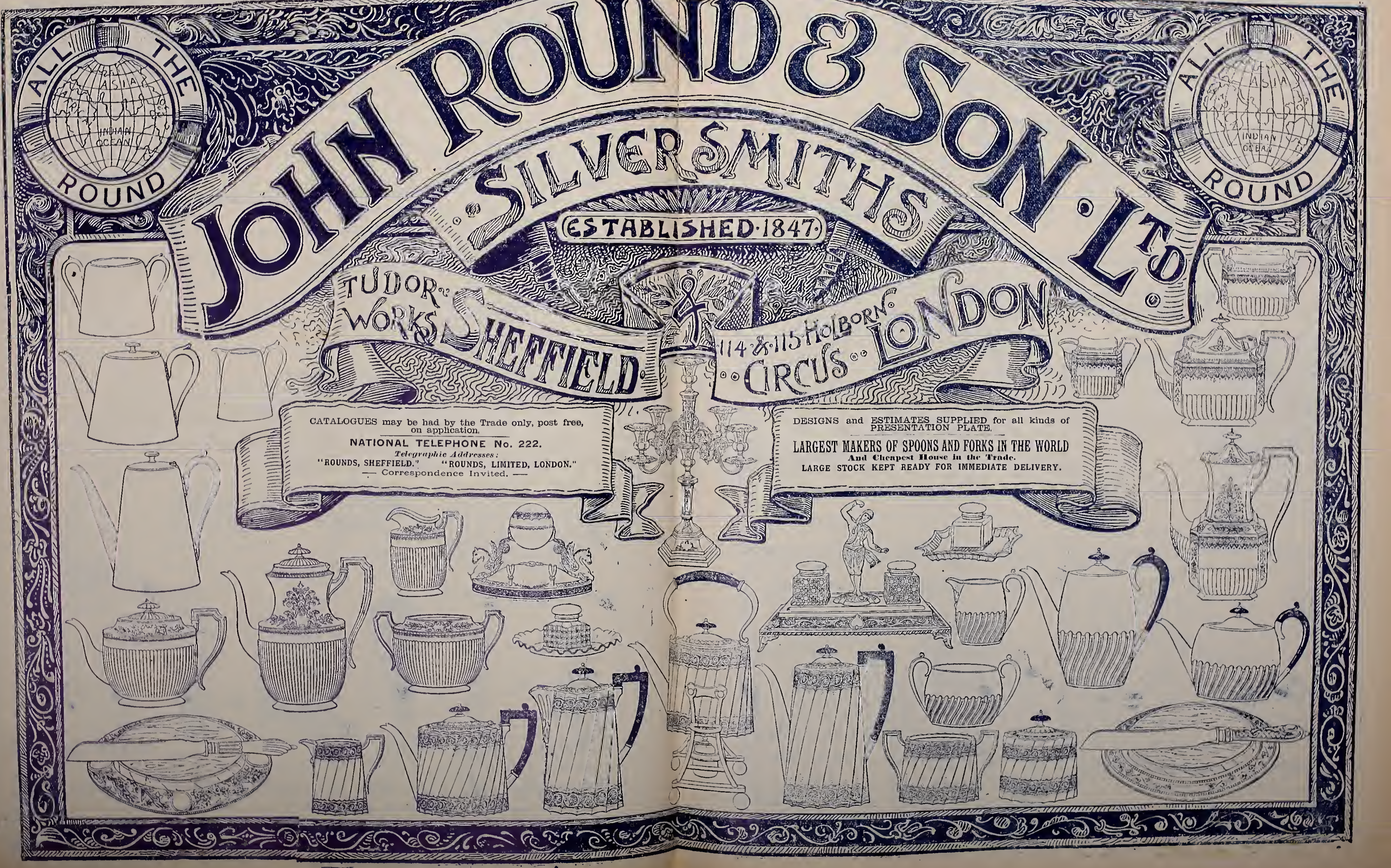

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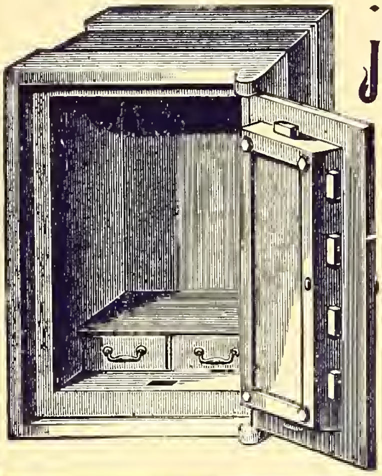

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APPLEBY'S PATENT SAFETY FASTENING FOR SCARF PINS,
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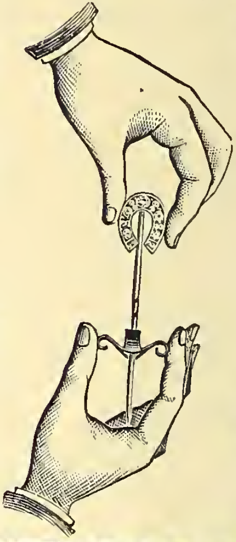

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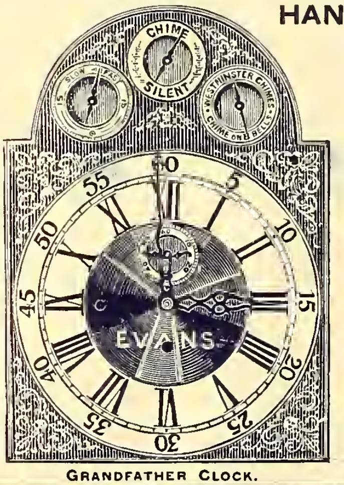

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CLOCKS,
School and House
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With arch brass dials to chime upon Bells, Gongs and Harrington's Patent Tubes.
ESTABLISHED 1805

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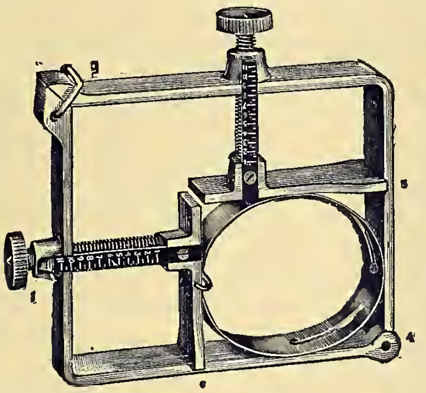
Messrs. Gray and Sons, Clerkenwell-green, have patented a new bracelet gauge, which must meet a want long felt. As no two wrists are exactly the same shape or proportions, no end of inconvenience arises in taking orders for special bracelets. This effective instrument cannot fail therefore to be favorably received, seeing that it registers the major and minor axis of the wrist, thereby enabling the jeweler to obtain a bracelet nearer the shape and size of the lady's wrist than heretofore. A glance at the illustration will be sufficient to show the working of this at once simple and effective gauge. It will be noticed that it has a joint in one corner, indicating that it opens so as to be *put upon* the wrist without the necessity of passing it over the hand. If we had a uniform system of measurements in this country, it would only be necessary to quote the two numbers registered to prevent any errors of size. Even in the absence of universal measurements, jewelers might, as we have so often advocated, adopt an absolute standard.



Horological Ingenuity at Local Exhibitions.—Bristol has considered that an Exhibition is in keeping with modern orthodoxy, and amongst the exhibits which called for local notice was the patent watch key of Cross and Co., jewelers, High-street, Bristol. This invention, which is adjustable to any watch, has for its special feature the obviating of the danger of breaking clock-works and main-springs. Several other inventions of this firm were on exhibit, of one of which—a special adjustable brooch pin—it is said many thousands have been sold.

Watches and Watches.—Under the above heading in connection with the laudation of some of the Chicago exhibits, Christian Lunge recently used some very well-chosen remarks. He observed: "As nobody can have any real knowledge about watches without practising for many years, it is very rare to see anything about watches or chronometers that is correct. A fine watch is exactly the same as a marine chronometer, only smaller, and cannot possibly be made by machinery any more than high-class music can be played by machinery." There can be no doubt that the advertisements about machine-made watches suggest to the public the idea that metals are put into one end of the machine, like hot boiled sugar, and come out fine watches at the other like sweetmeats, and stamped with the name of the manufacturer.

How a Trade becomes a National Industry.—At times we may be tempted to wonder how it is that certain trades have become national industries; why this country has become the representative of this branch, and another country of another. But we have no hesitation in saying that it is far less owing to any initial superior intelligence than the encouragement and fostering of the given industry along all legitimate lines. Tested by this assumption, what is our future in connection with the watchmaking industry? What encouragement is there held out for young men to-day? It is all very well to talk about the cultivation of the science and art of horology for its own sake; but it is impossible to make young men realise the correctness of such a policy until it is too late in life, unless they have some incentives to urge them on, at least, in the early stages. What incentives, what rewards do we hold out? Practically none! It is true the Science and Art Department have endowed watchmaking, but not to an extent that would pay a University man to teach, like many other subjects. There are also the certificates of the Horological Institute. When we compare these with the list of prizes offered, say, by the Horological School of Paris, with its medals, books, and money prizes, how humiliated we ought to feel, and more so as we read down the list of donations by members of the trade. We fear we shall have to wait a long time before we see a list of English watchmakers sending in their £5 5s.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

To the Editor of the Watchmaker, Jeweler, Silversmith and Optician.

The Case of Mr. Siltberg.

Sir,—I notice in your paper of the 1st ult., that you have referred to a case tried at the last assizes in York between Mr. Enoch John Siltberg of York, and Mr. C. E. Simpson, and, as your report does not contain a full account of the facts, I am sure you will be glad to receive the following:—

In December last Mr. Siltberg was looking out for suitable premises in a central position in York, the premises which he then occupied having been bought by the Corporation. By many misrepresentations Mr. Simpson induced him to purchase a house and shop in Spurriergate for £2,000. Subsequently Mr. Siltberg ascertained that Mr. Simpson's statements were untrue, and that the true value of the property was much below £1,000, Mr. Simpson having purchased it four years ago for £650. Mr. Siltberg then made an offer to Mr. Simpson to pay him £50 to relieve him of his contract. Mr. Siltberg was prepared to increase this to £150, but Mr. Simpson flatly refused to rescind the contract. Mr. Siltberg took proceedings in the High Court of Justice to relieve himself of the contract, and the case was heard at York before the Lord Chief Justice, and ended in Mr. Siltberg losing his £100 deposit and paying £25 to Mr. Simpson, but what most he wished was granted by the Court, namely, that he should not be compelled to take the property, that being the purpose for which he commenced his action.

I trust to your fairness to insert this letter, and remain yours faithfully,

J. H. Turner.

Answers to Correspondents.

A. Wood.—You can obtain titanium from Messrs. Johnson and Matthey, who would, no doubt, also make you an alloy. The proportion of the former is only a few per cent. for most purposes; you could try a 5 per cent. and see how it came out. If the purpose for which you required it necessitated it, you could have a stronger alloy; and when once obtained it would of course be of great value to you. These aluminium titanium alloys being new, little has yet been written upon them.

Messrs. John Round and Son, Limited.

We often wonder what some members of the trade, English as well as Colonial, would think if they could take a walk through such a silver town as the factories of Messrs. John Round and Son, Limited, Tudor Works, Sheffield. The sight of the stamping out of the blanks for flat-wear, like steam chaff cutting for the London General Omnibus Company; the colossal accumulation of hollow ware; the spinners as busy as the lathe hands in a fringe factory, who turn out the various shaped bobbins by the hundreds of thousands; the size and number of the plating and pickleing vats; the constant seething to and fro, to say nothing of the almost endless stock to be seen in the galleries allotted to the display of goods, all these things impress the mind with a sense of the vastness of the concern. But Messrs. J. Round and Son are not only manufacturers' manufacturers, they supply the trade also, and that from a stock in many ways not to be equalled in the whole world. Those of our readers who have not yet put themselves into communication with this old firm, are advised to lose no time in doing so, and we are sure we shall win their gratitude for the introduction.

Watch and Pedometer Oils.—Messrs. Hirst Bros. and Co., of Oldham, are steadily pushing to the front with their Diamant watch oil. This oil, being perfectly clear and without smell, and not thickening at whatever degree of temperature, is sure to win its way among watch jobbers who pride themselves on using fine oil. Each bottle is placed in a card case, and thus kept from injury by light and from dust while on the watch board; it is well worth a trial.

The British Horologists and the Chicago Exhibit.—All foreign horological journals are expressing surprise at the paucity of the English exhibit. The *Journal Suisse d'Horlogerie* cannot understand why the remarkable productions of Frodsham, Dent, Pool, Kullberg, etc., are not represented, and why the whole English trade should be represented by John Smith and Son (St. John's-square) and the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths' Co. We must say that, in spite of knowing the reasons why these firms did not exhibit, we also share their surprise, and may further add we are very sorry.

Mayoral Chain for Salisbury.

A SPECIALLY artistic chain and badge have just been completed for the ancient Borough of New Sarum, by Messrs. T. and J. Bragg, of Birmingham. The matter was placed in the hands of Mr. J. W. Tonks, whose experience in these civic decorations has been so extensive. The ornament is now finished, and combines historic interest with fine effect and elaborate detail. The badge is of large size, circular, with a Gothic foliated suspending attachment, and has rich mouldings on each side enclosing an ornamental border, the obverse having the letters forming the name of the city, "Salisbury," on enamelled bosses, and oak bands and laurel intervening. Within this is a six-arch canopy with panels and spandrils, the decoration being the same each side, and the centre being left open to display the arms. These also are made to display the supporters, obverse and reverse, the shield of the city having two eagles, gold, with extended wings and gorged, with coronets, azure. The English rose as in seal appears above, and the motto in enamel below, "Civitas Novæ Sarum." The centre link of chain is a representation in enamel of the old city seal "Saresburie," as it is given in the quaint old Latin, the Madonna and Infant Saviour, cathedral towers and spires, with birds and celestial bodies, being contrasted with the inside arch of church, where the Bishop is represented officiating. This link, similar to the other circular links of smaller size, has a border of Maltese crosses and fleurs-de-lis as on the fillet of the English crown; the Mayor representing in certain matters the devolved Royal authority within his borough. A double row of oblong links connect the whole chain, and between the chief circular links are boldly carved two-headed eagles, the supporters of the city arms, showing both back and front, and forming a very characteristic feature. The circular links, with coronet border and rich mouldings, have a series of coats of arms, in enamel, viz.:—1. The Old City Arms; 2. The Cathedral Cognisance; 3. The arms of Henry III., who, in 1227, gave the city a charter, conferring the same privileges as on Winchester; 4. Those of James I., who gave a special charter of incorporation; 5. Those of Queen Anne; and finally (6), the Royal arms for the present reign. Other circular links have the initial letter "S." in mediæval character, the reverse in all cases being left free for inscriptions.

The Timing and Repeating Watch Co.

DESPITE the disadvantages against which the Timing and Repeating Watch Co., of Geneva, have had to fight in the introduction of their products into the English market, when, to all appearances, it was already well stocked, the company appears to be well satisfied with the success it has had thus far, and, judging from what one hears in the trade, with the prospects of the success it is likely to achieve in the future. The productions of this firm are well known in the trade, and include some of the most ingenious inventions that have been brought out in this branch of horology, which, as everyone will admit, has had expended upon it some of the best brains that have ever been consumed. The wholesale houses, too, in this country who undertook the agency for the above company's productions have not found it by any means hurtful to their general business, but, on the contrary, have found a large accretion of trade therefrom, as the watches are all of the most reliable character and executed with the utmost care and attention in every detail.

Pneumatic Telescope-Focusser.—We are informed that G. M. Hopkins, an American, has patented a pneumatic device for focussing telescopes, by the simple action of pressing a bulb held in the hand after the manner of a pneumatic shutter. But as the necessary motions on the two articles are so very different, we should like to see the novelty before we pronounce an opinion.

Turret Clock for North Wingfield Church, Derbyshire.—The grand old tower of this church has recently been enriched with a new clock as a memorial to a former rector. It has two large illuminated dials, strikes the hours, and chimes the Westminster quarters. The work has been carried out by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, generally to the designs of Lord Grimthorpe.

The Smallest Watch in the World.—It is being asserted by all the American papers that the smallest watch in the world is on exhibit at the Chicago Fair; this, however, we very much doubt. Over forty years ago, at our great '51 Exhibition, there was one less in size than a silver twopenny piece. It was jeweled in ten holes and went for twenty-eight hours. And, what is still more wonderful, it is still keeping time, and is now in a shop in East-street, Brighton, where it can be seen.

Turret Clock for White Waltham.—A Crewe watchmaker has been instructed by an anonymous donor to offer to the parish of White Waltham an hour striking clock, for its church. The offer has been gratefully accepted.

A Disclaimer.—Messrs. H. A. Byworth and Co., diamond mounters, ask us to announce that they have no business connection with any firm trading under a similar name, and that their only address is 32 and 34, Clerkenwell-road, E.C.

Men Wearing Bracelets.—It is stated that Mr. Justice Hawkins has joined the ranks of the men bracelet-wearers. Although this custom was set by Royalty, and its adoption would be a boon to trade, we must say we neither like a womanish man nor a manish woman.

A Wooden Watch.—Amongst the exhibits of the World's Fair is one that commands a great deal of attention "from visitors." It is a watch made entirely of wood. It appears that it was the work of a Siberian convict. His production was considered so remarkable that he was awarded his liberty; the authorities considering that such skill should not be lost by being enclosed within prison walls.

Technical Knowledge in Trade Journals.—We are extremely surprised to see in an otherwise most excellent trade journal as directions to prove a diamond to be a diamond:—"Prick a needle hole through a card, and look at it through the stone. If you see two holes. the 'diamond' is a paste." We should have thought that in these days, when elementary science is taught even in Board schools, that anyone would have known that all amorphous substances are, singly, refractive, and that a paste when viewed under the most favorable and correct conditions—which, by the way, are rather difficult to obtain with a cut stone—would show only one hole.

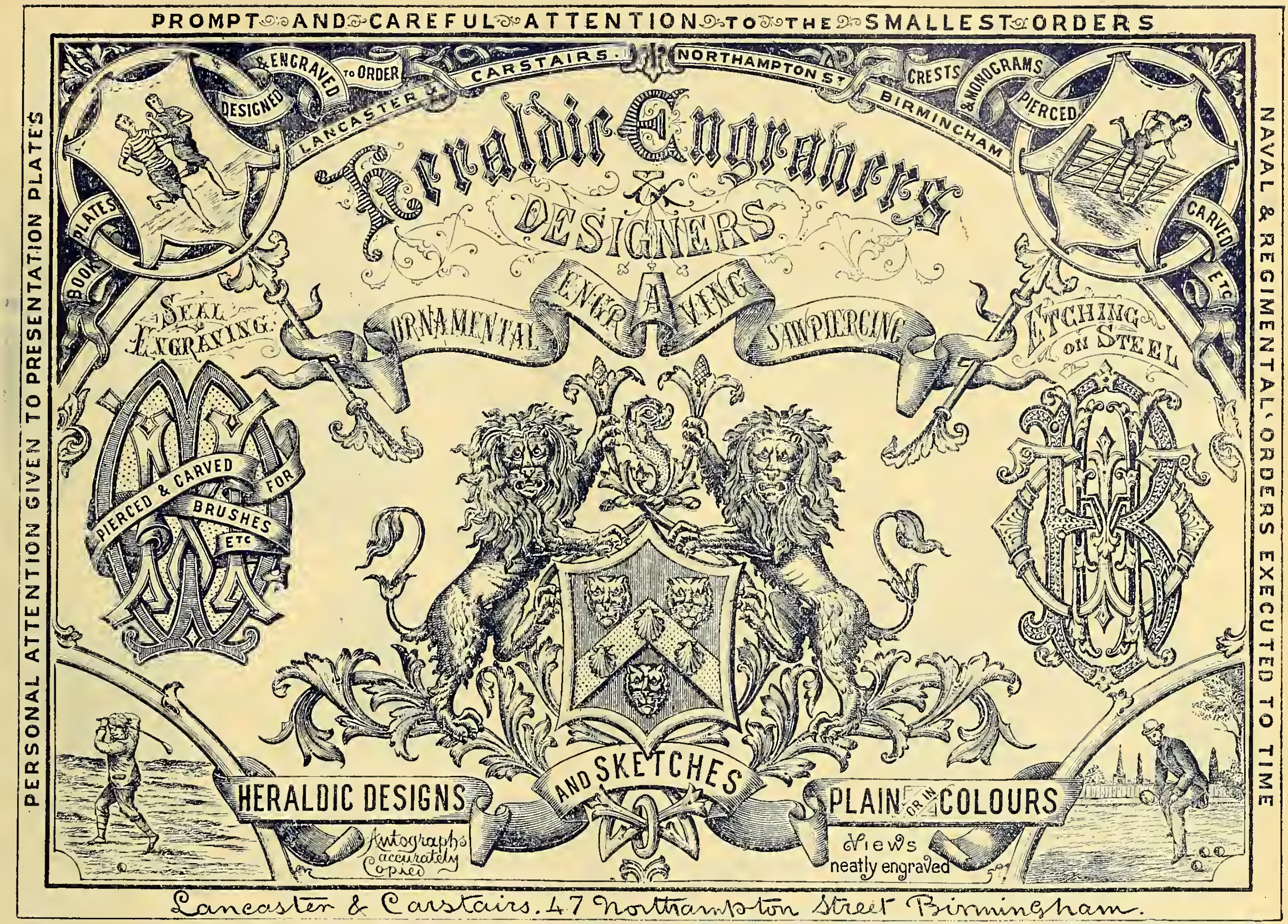
The Goddess Electricity.—That "electricity is life" may appear a draw of the long-bow to some who have always been taught different, but that idea is mild compared with the estimation of the potency of this force which exists in the minds of others; thus we hear a paper such as the *Sun*, which is supposed to be almost antedate, asserting that, "In his lighter moments, Mr. Edison makes rubies and emeralds, which are mere chemical trifles, and which his wife may have for the asking"! (?) If "Tay Pay" passed this, it is very evident he is far less qualified for the all-round duties of an editor than his friends estimated.

The Swiss Watch Trade.—The great decline in the Swiss watch trade, owing to overproduction, has made all Swiss with a love of the canton country look about for a cause and remedy. Not the least valuable are hints tendered by the Swiss Consul at Philadelphia; and had they been given many years ago, and acted upon, the Swiss trade would never have fallen into its present state. His advice may be summed up as follows:—"Refuse to sell for America inferior or imperfectly examined watches, since these, despite their price, tend but to lower Swiss reputation." This has been the gospel of the good houses for years, who have endeavored by all means to prohibit the manufacture of "rubbish."

A Mason Makes an Orrery.—We are informed that a mason, James Scoll, of Selkirk, with no other tools than a pair of compasses, a few files, a light hammer, a pair of shoemaker's pincers, a carpenter's saw, and a pocket knife, has during the last five years spent his leisure time upon the construction of an orrery, which he has lately completed. This planet motion describer is about 8ft. high, 5ft. broad, and 21in. in depth. The case has been constructed for the most part from old cigar boxes. It is worked by a central clock. Most of the wheels, which are of zinc, are also the production of the man of stone. He did not possess either a vice or a lathe, and estimates that it cost him altogether under £3.

Hour Zone System for Australia.—Few people speaking about Australia realise its great size. It has no less than three meridians passing through it, differing from each other by an hour. A representative postal and telegraphic conference has recently been held in Brisbane, at which it was decided: "That it is desirable with the public interests that the Hour Zone system should be adopted in a modified form, so that there should be one time throughout Australia—viz., that of the 135th meridian, or nine hours east of Greenwich." This would effect a difference of an hour and a-half on the extreme East and west, and would, of course, be a great convenience for railway, postal, and other work.

Worse than an Ordinary Libel.—On September 9th the paper *Answers*, which, by pandering to some of the less commendable weaknesses of boy and mankind, has acquired a somewhat extensive circulation, under the heading of "Some Working Jewelers' Tricks," treats its readers to certain assertions in the form of facts which ought to meet with the punishment they deserve. The allegations are said to be made by a West End jeweler, who states that "nearly every article placed in the hands of the working plunderer yields him some opportunity for fraud." A number of instances are quoted, such as the substitution of metal bars for gold ones in alberts left to repair; and, amongst others, the absurd and damaging charge of de-jeweling watches. The "West End Jeweler" is made to say: "I have known these men take out jewels from a valuable watch, and substitute crystals made in America for the purpose!" If this is not enough to raise an unwarrantable suspicion in the minds of the public, we don't know what is!



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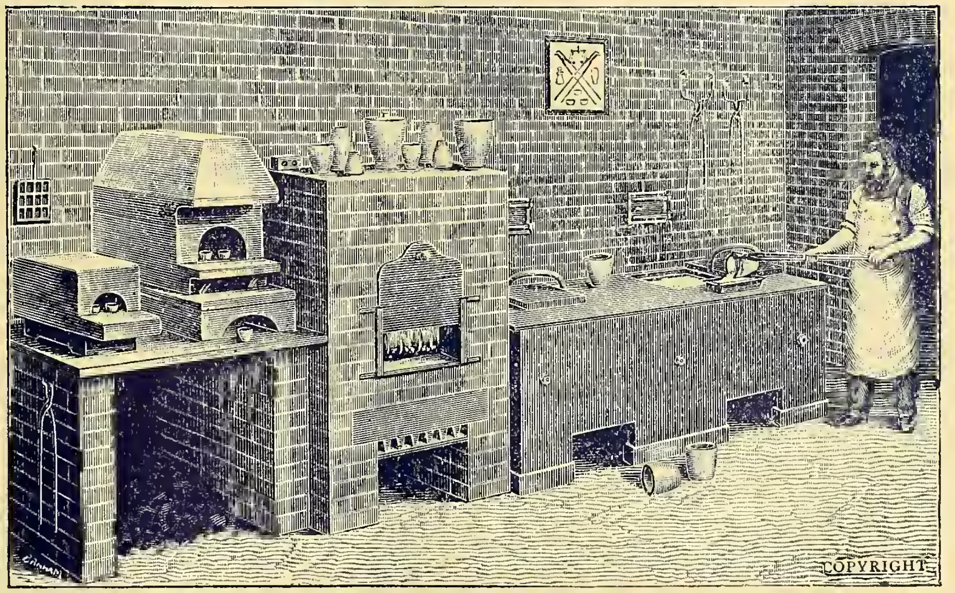

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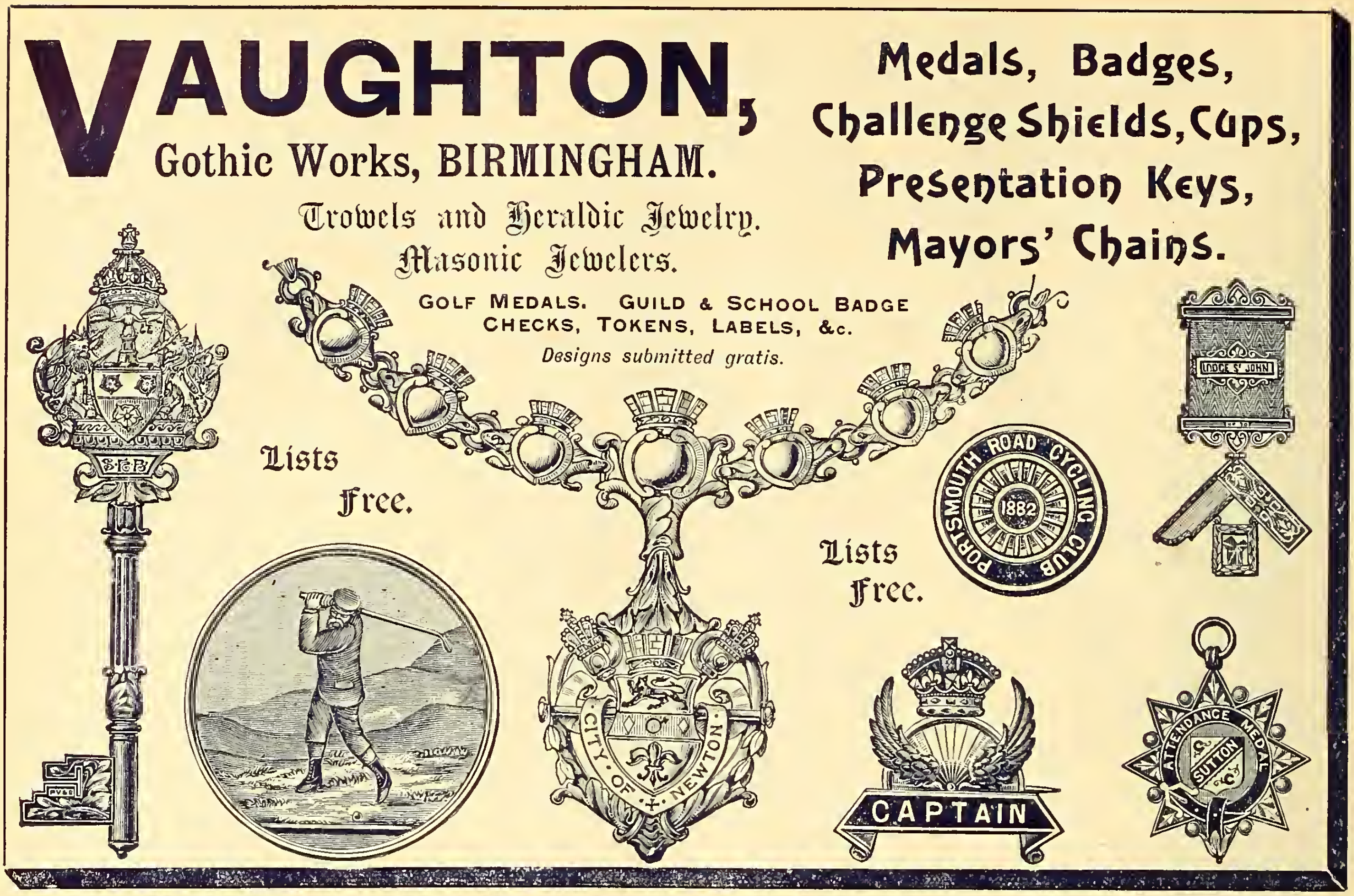

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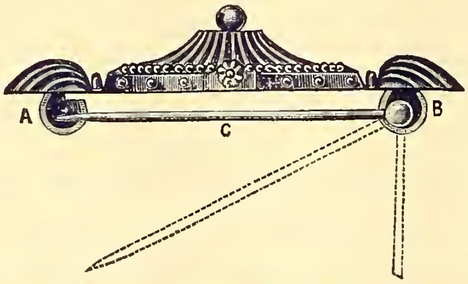

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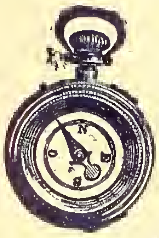

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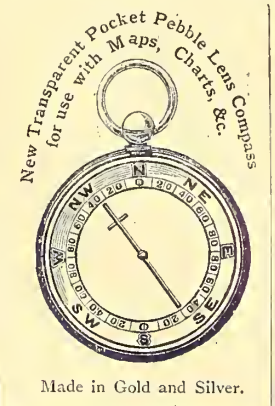
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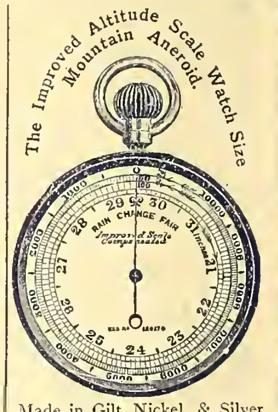
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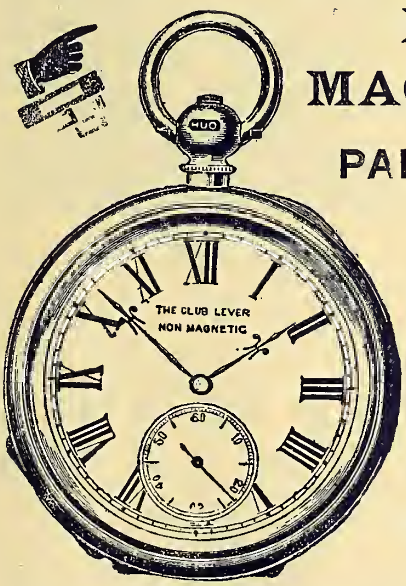

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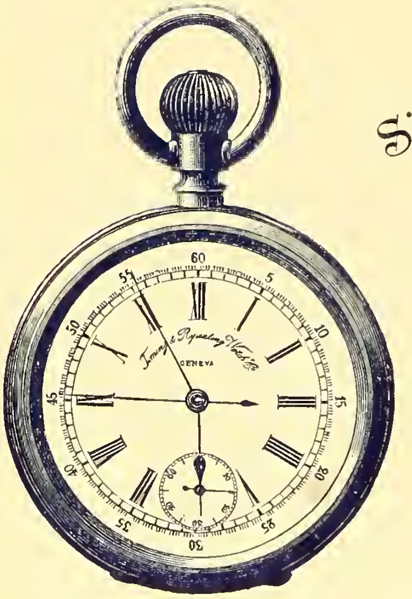

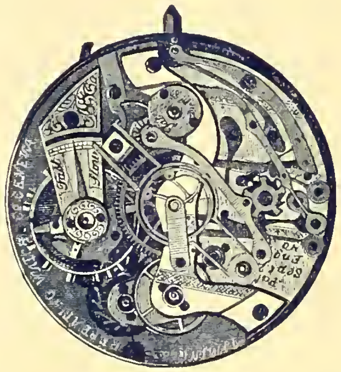

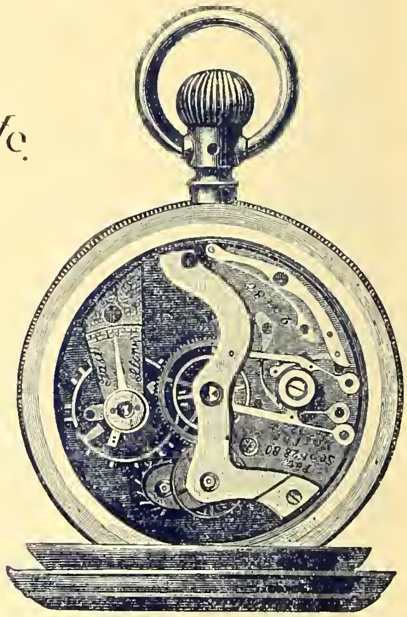

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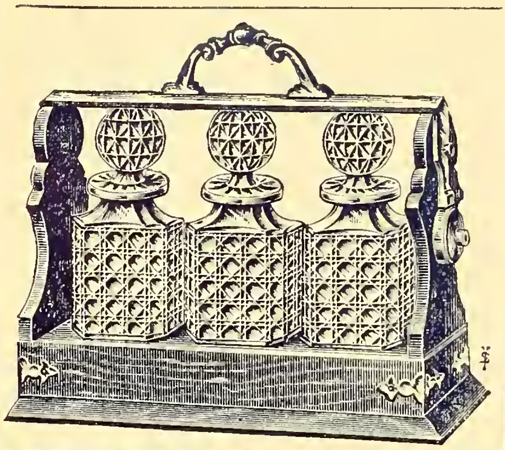

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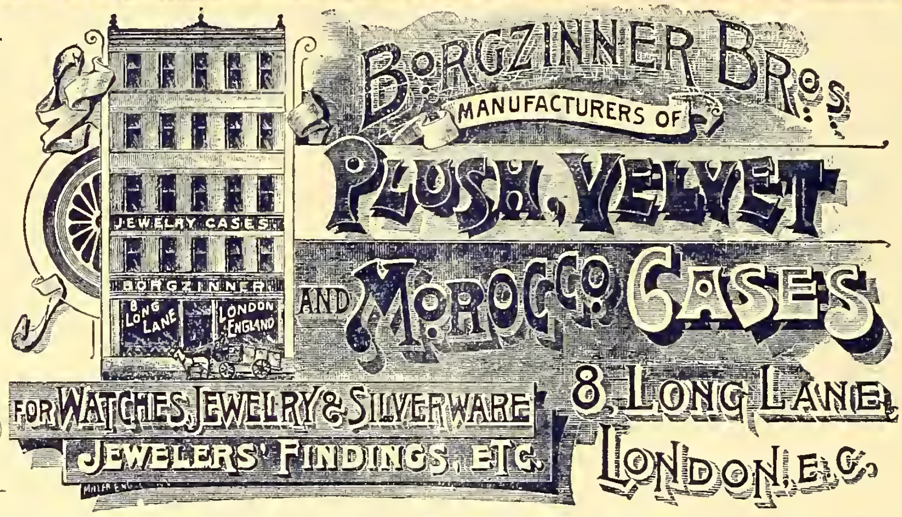
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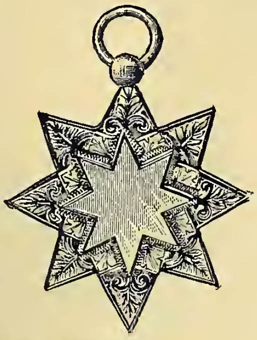

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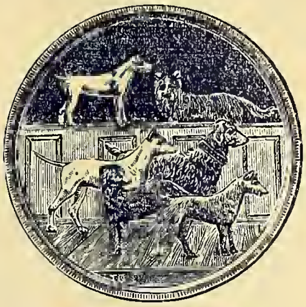

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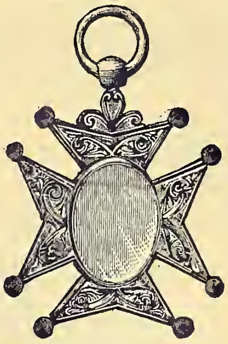

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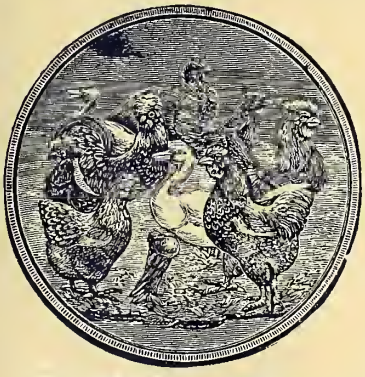

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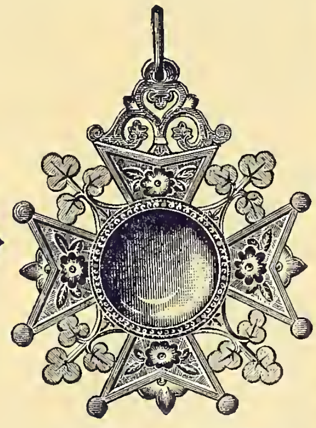

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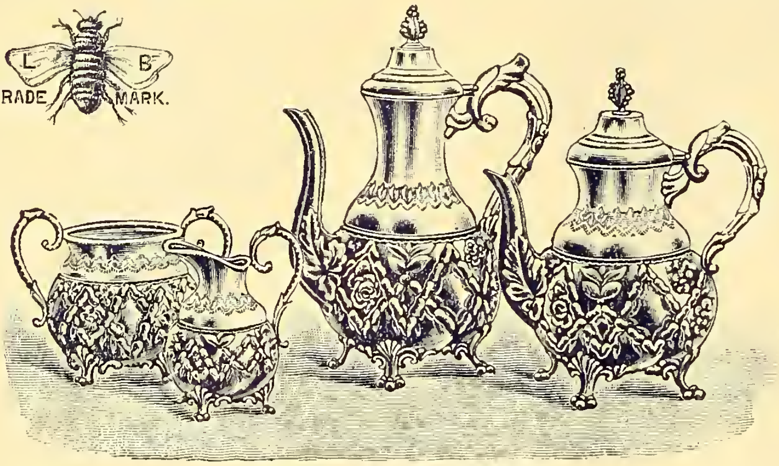
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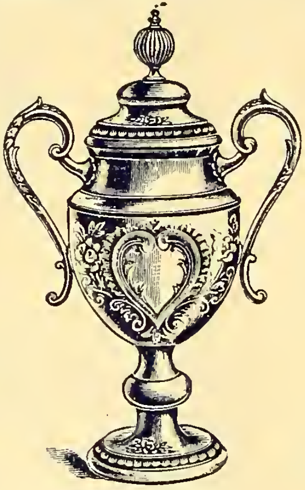
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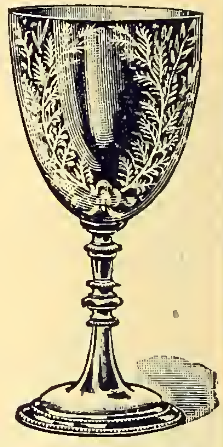
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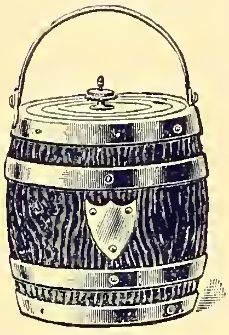
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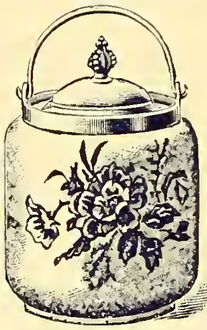
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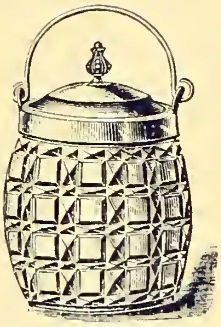
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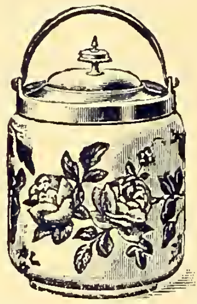
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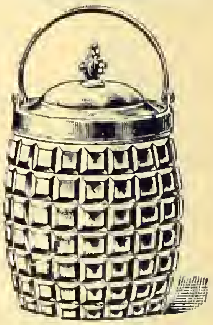
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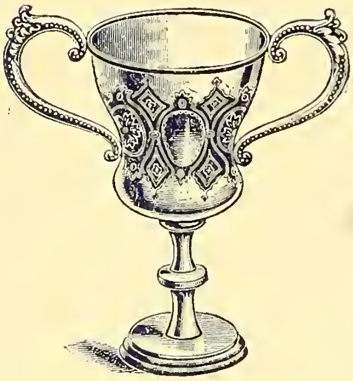
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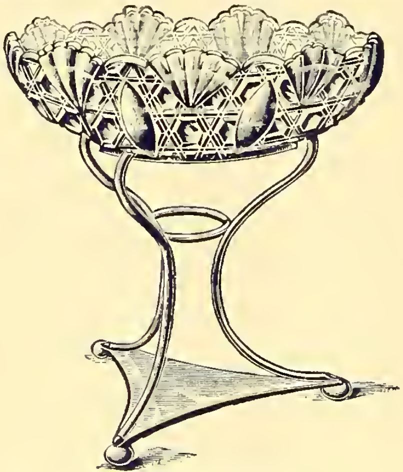
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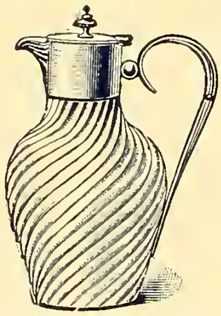
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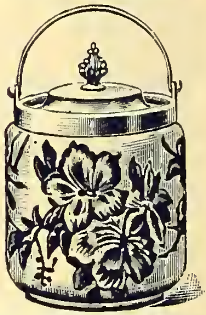
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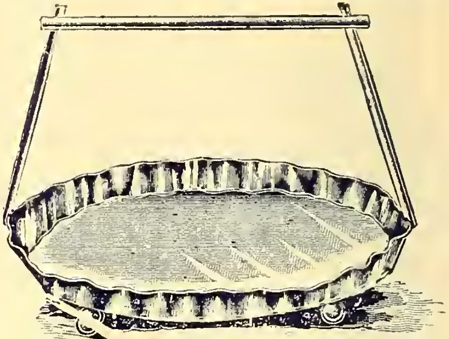
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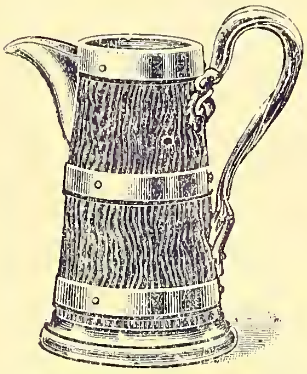
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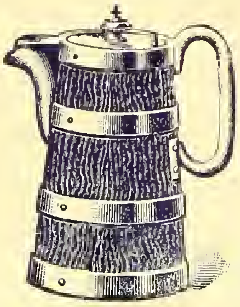
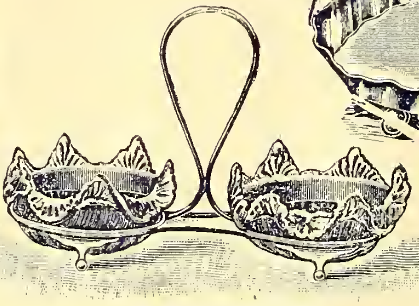
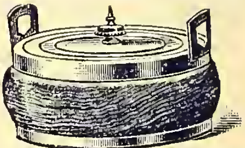

8214.—B. M. Lined Oak Hot-Water Jug.


028.—Ruby Jelly, 2 sizes.


8947.—Oak Butter.

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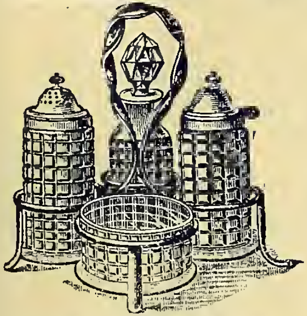
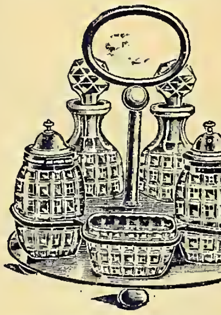
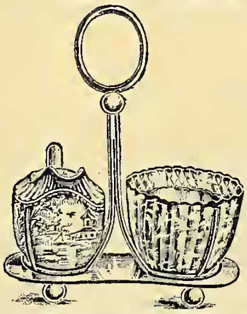
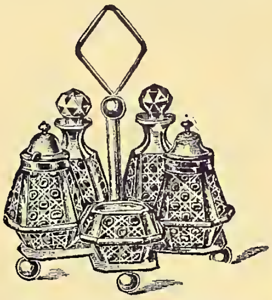
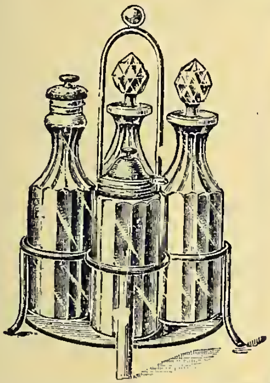
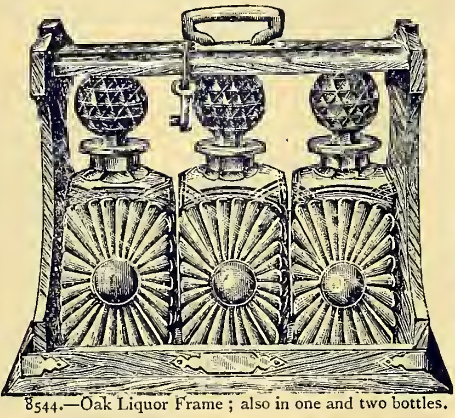

9578.—Plaid Glass Luncheon Cruet.

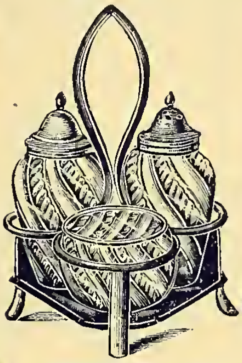

9860.—New Cut Glass, Carlton.

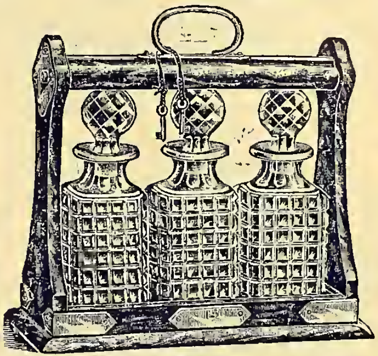

9719.—Sugar and Cream, Willow Pattern Design, Copeland China, all Colors.

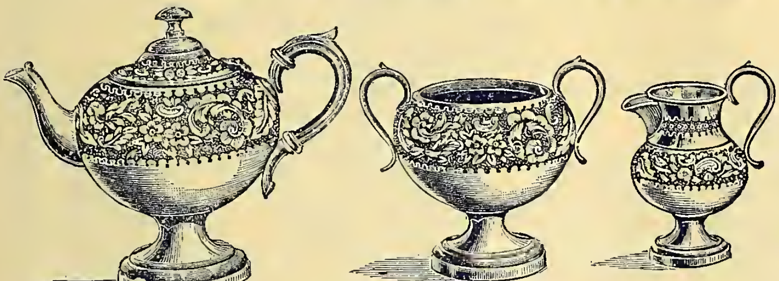

9875.—Fine Cut Glass, Carlton.

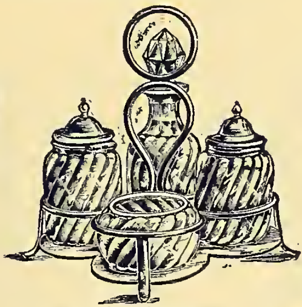

9620.—Government Pattern Glass Cruet, and in 5 and 6 hole.

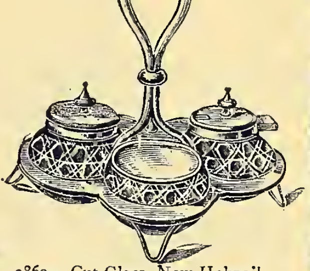

8544.—Oak Liquor Frame; also in one and two bottles.

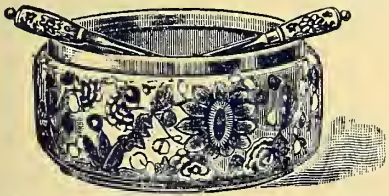

9723.—Breakfast, New Pressed Glass, and an Oval Salt.

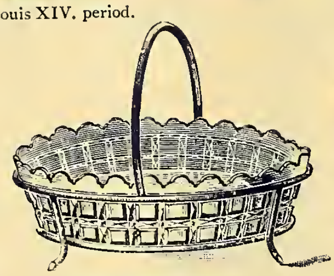

8780.—Oak Liquor Frame, American Glass (Sole Right), and in two Bottles.

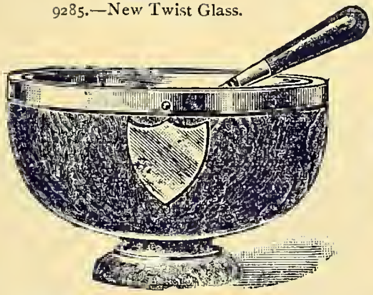

9864.—Tea Set. Louis XIV. period.

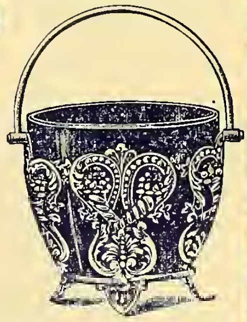

9285.—New Twist Glass.

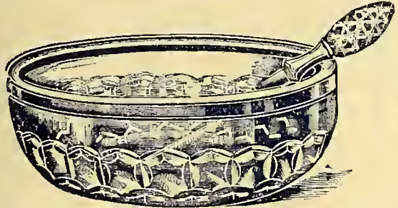

9869.—Cut Glass, New Hobnail, very effective.

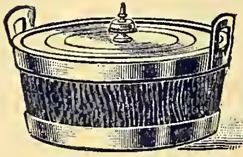

3696.—China Salad with helpers, Crown Derby Decoration.

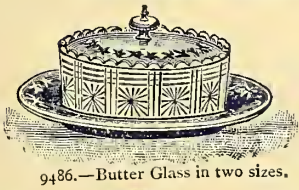

9667.—Glass Jelly.

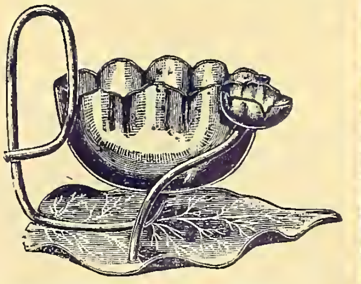

3782.—Oak Salad with helpers.

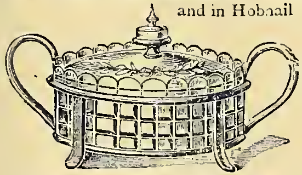

3960.—Sugar Basket, all colors.

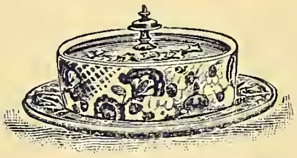

9402.—Salad Bowl with helpers, American Glass, and in Hobnail

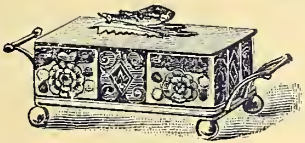

3427.—Oak Tub, Butter.


9486.—Butter Glass in two sizes.


9368.—Lily Sugar Bowl, Gilt inside, and Sifter, and in Salt and Egg Racks.


9735.—Plaid Glass Butter, Pressed Ivy Cover.


8539.—China Butter, Crown Derby Decoration.


3824.—China Sardine, Crown Derby Decoration.

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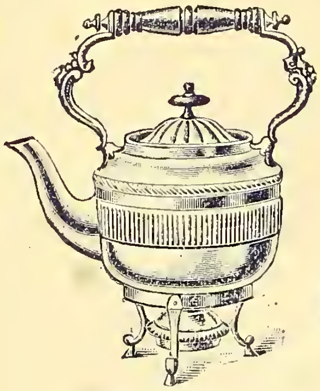
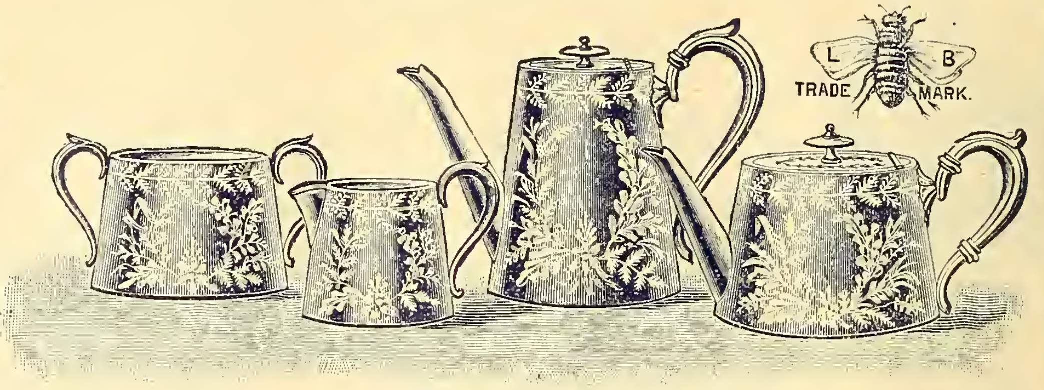
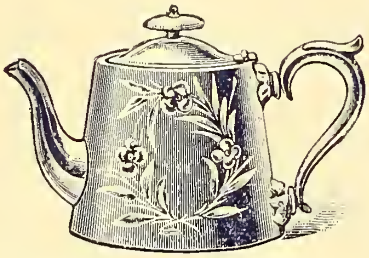


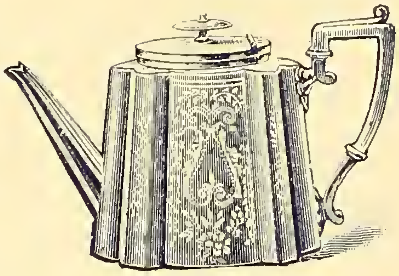
9088.—Toddy Kettle.



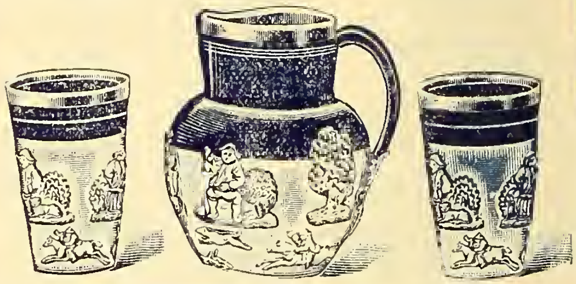
4037.—Tea and Coffee Set. Richly engraved. B. M. and N. S.



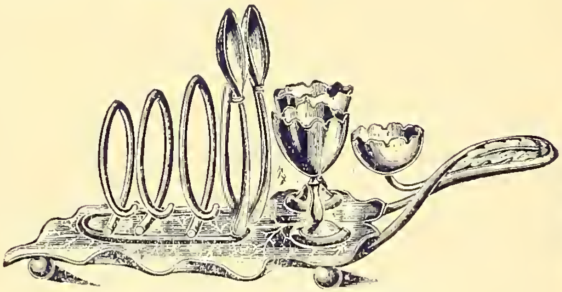
8379—Tea, Hand Engraved, in variety of patterns.



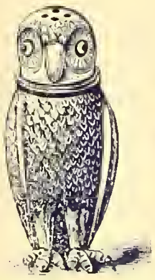
8915.—Strong B. M. Tea.



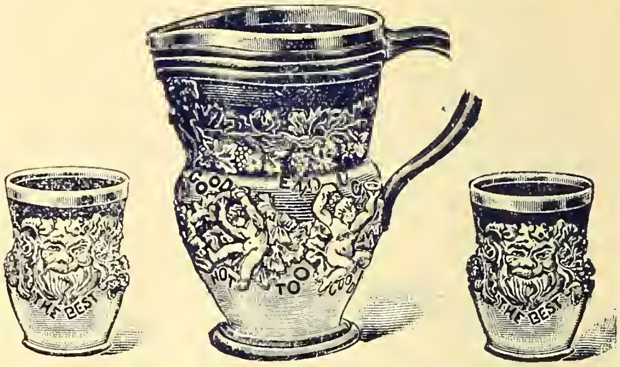
8960.—Toby Jug and Beakers. Doulton



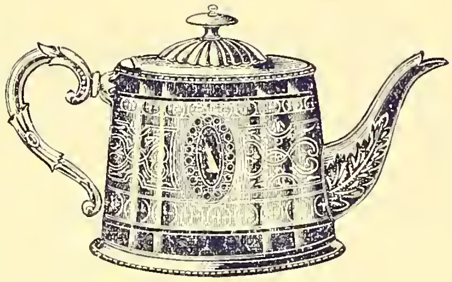
9476.—Toast Rack, Egg and Salt Combination.



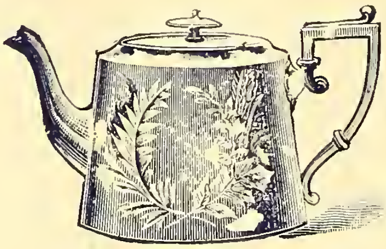
3880.—Owl Pepper.



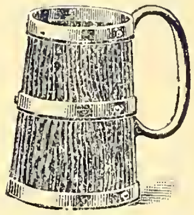
8961.—Bacchanalian Jug and Beakers. Doulton Stoneware.



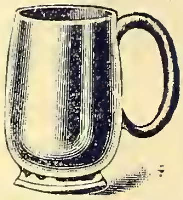
9392.—Tea, Pressed Pattern.



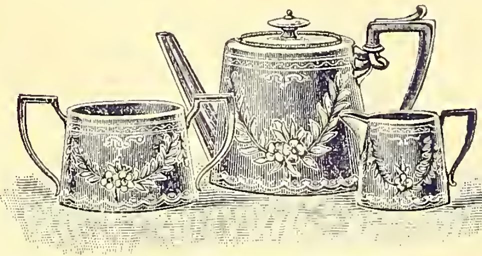
6047.—Tea Pot, Hand Engraved, good sound pattern.



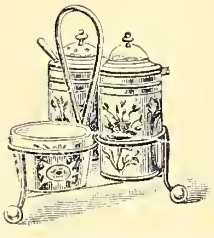
8847.—Oak Tankard, E.P. on N.S. Mounts.



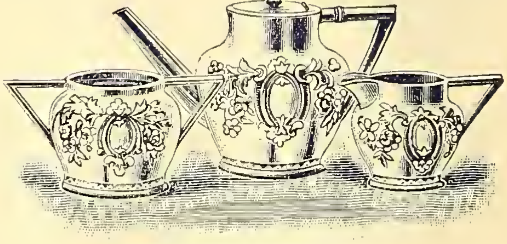
8625.—Pint Tankard, E.P. on N.S.



4075.—Tea Set, Can Shape.



9043.—China Breakfast, assorted colors.



8972.—Modern Afternoon Set.

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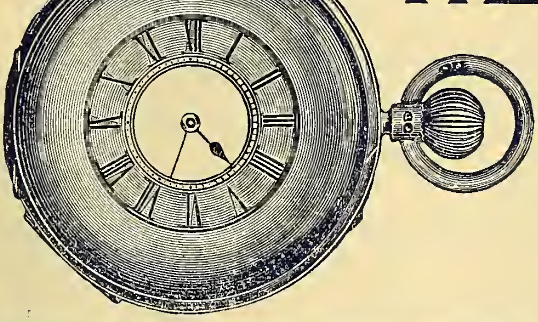

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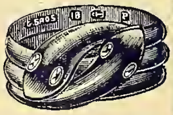

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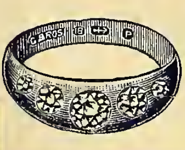

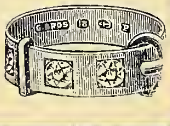

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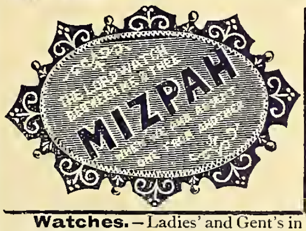

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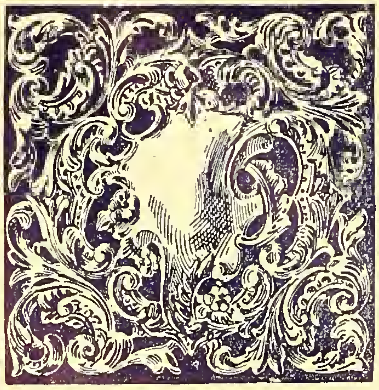

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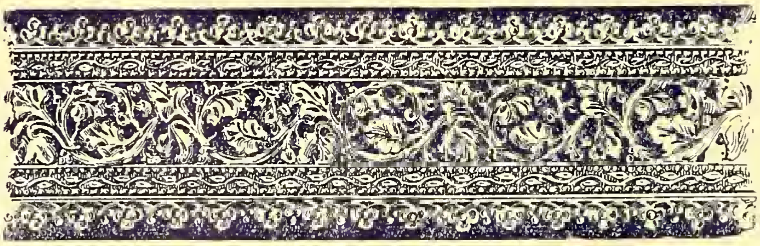

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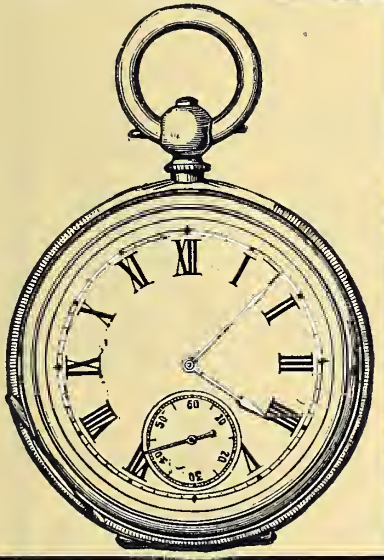

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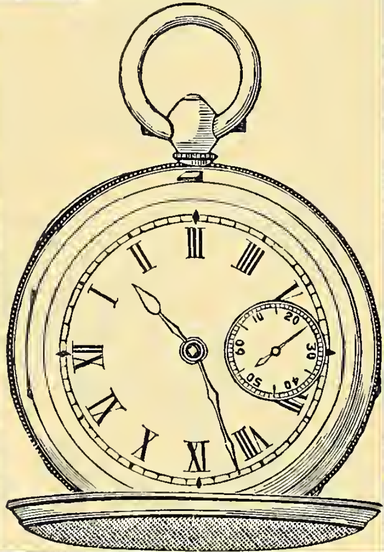

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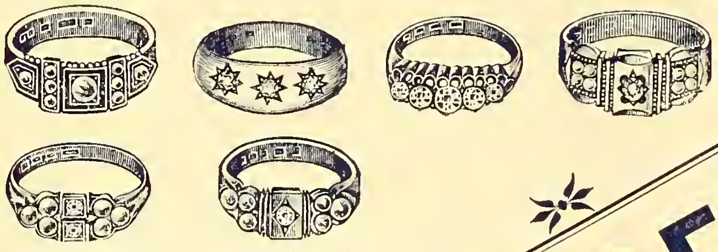

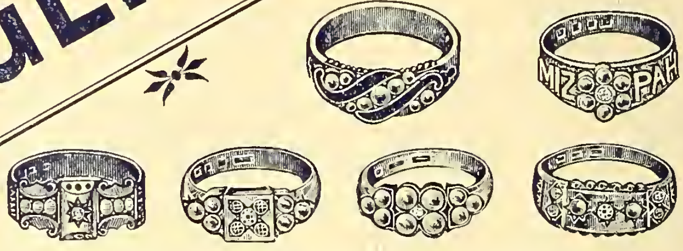

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Johnson, Walker, & Tolhurst, 80, Aldersgate-st.
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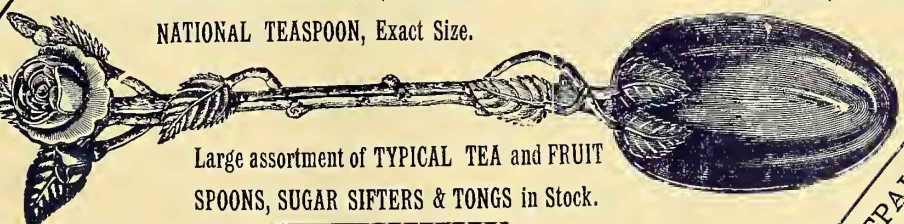

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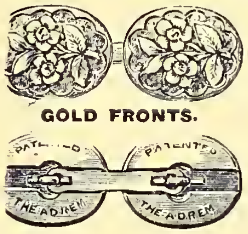

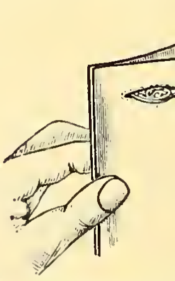

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Thorpe and Co., 31, King-street Oldham.
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Hill, Charles J., Russell House, Coventry.
Jeannot, Paul, 33, Holborn Viaduct, London.
Kullberg, V., 105, Liverpool-road, N.
Lamb, H. T., 5, St. John-square, London.
Needham, W., 73, Station-street, Birmingham.
Newmark, Louis, 103, Hatton Garden, London, E.C.
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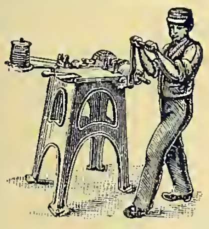

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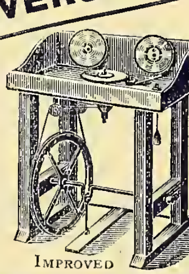

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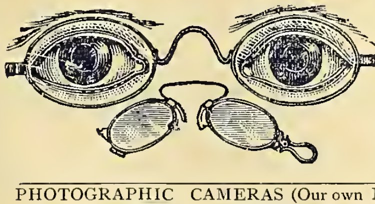

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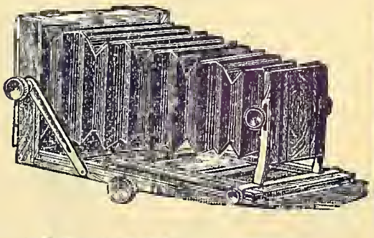

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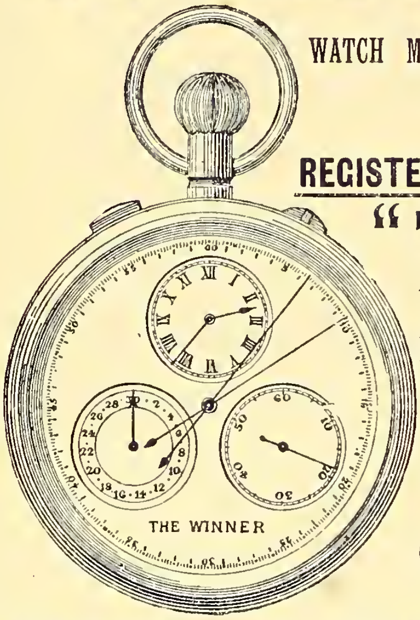

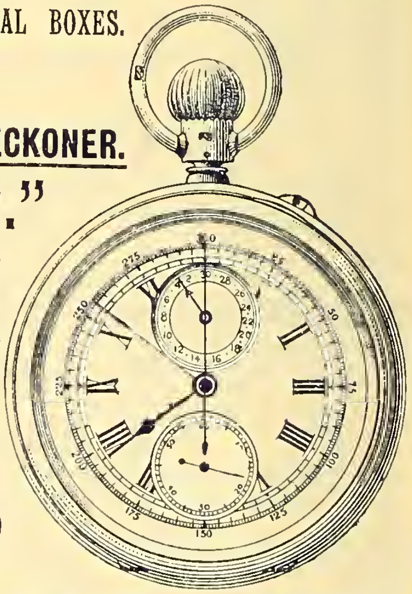

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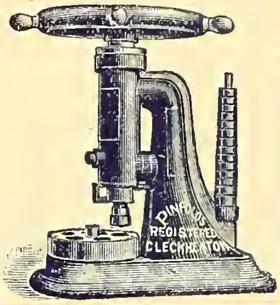

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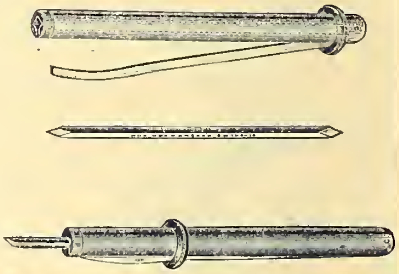

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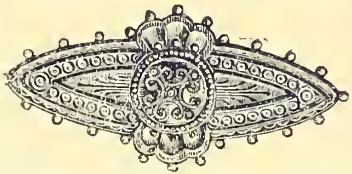

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Leicester. — Watch, Clock, and Jewelry business, well-situated in a leading thoroughfare. Annual turnover £1,500. Stock, &c., at valuation. (No. 10.)

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West Worthing. — Jeweler's business, double-fronted shop with good large house attached. Stock £350 to £400 at valuation. Fixtures (cost £120) at valuation. (No. 14.)

London.—Jeweler's business in the Strand. Stock about £500. Fixtures and lease £300. Full particulars on application. (No. 15.)

Sheffield.—Jeweler's, very old established. Stock about £2,000. Particulars on application. (No. 17.)

Bournemouth.—Watchmaker's and Jeweler's business. Good position, best side of street. Returns £800 per annum, can be largely increased by energetic practical man. Stock about £400 at valuation. Rent £85. Part of premises can be let at £26 per annum. Lease 21 years (13 to run). Lease, fixtures, fittings, &c., £320. (No. 22.)

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For full particulars of the above:—

ADDRESS—G. G. POPPLETON, C.A.,
Business Agency Department,
The Wholesale Jewelry and Fancy Trades' Association,
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YOUNG English and Spanish Correspondent wanted by a large export firm in jewelry trade. Must have previous experience in the line.—Address, stating salary required, "Correspondent," care of Rudolf Mosse, Hanaru, Germany. W.M. 291.

MISCELLANEOUS.

RE ALFRED LEWIS.—Will the person who replied to this advertisement anonymously please correspond at once with Waghorn Brothers, 23, North End, Croydon. (W.M. 289.)

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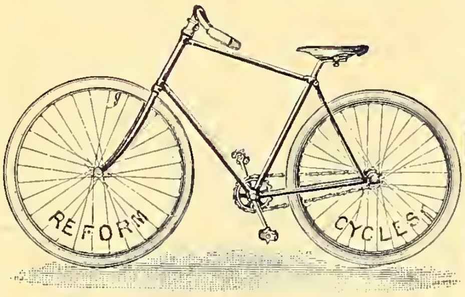

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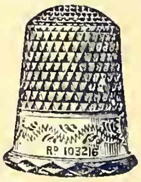

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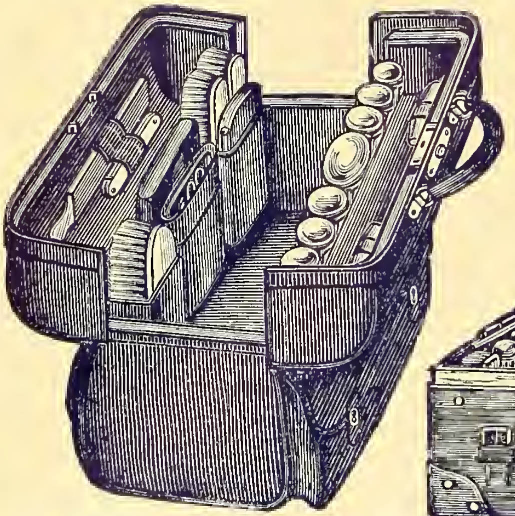

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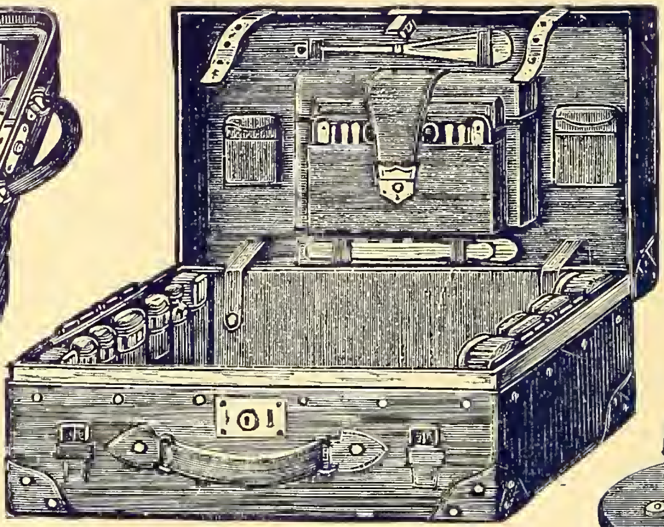

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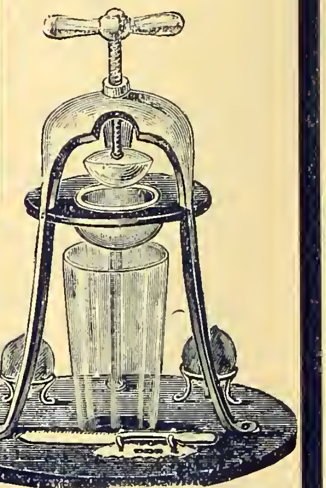

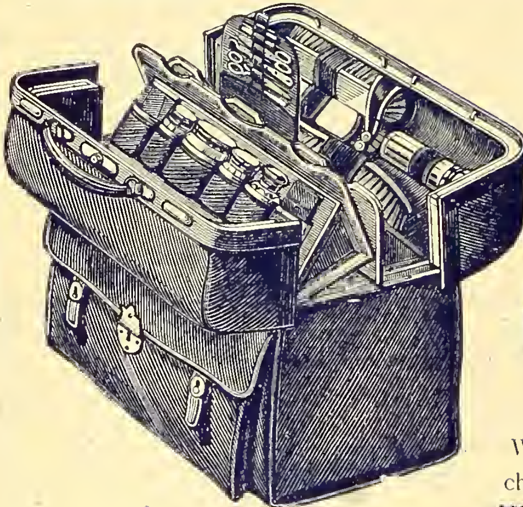

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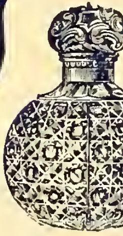

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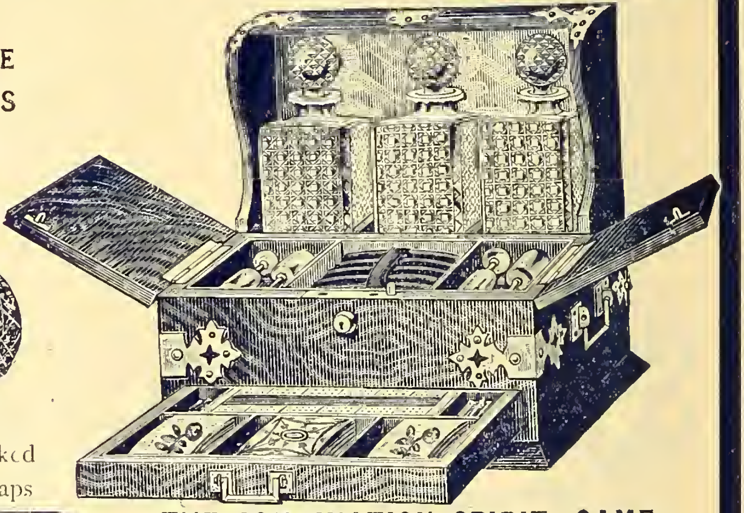

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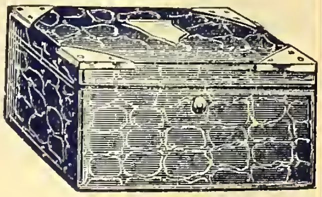

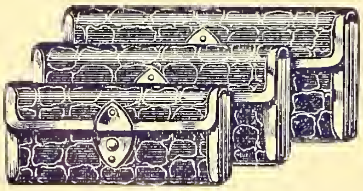

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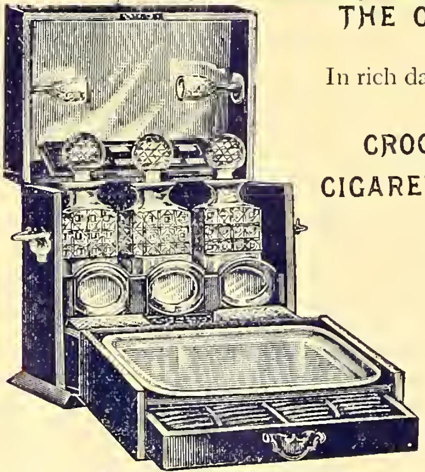

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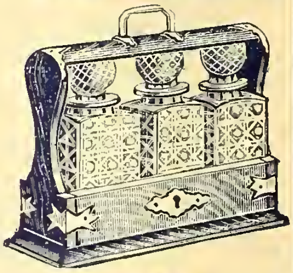

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Edited by W. J. LEWIS ABBOTT, F.G.S.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.] [*Registered for Transmission Abroad.*

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INQUIRIES.—Information is given, whenever possible, to inquirers, who are requested to assist by giving the fullest details of the matters to which their questions relate. In special cases replies will be given through the post, and for this purpose addressed and stamped envelopes must be supplied.

PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, & DESIGNS.—Arrangements have been made with an expert whereby subscribers to this journal can receive information respecting these free of charge. Letters of inquiry must be addressed to the Editor of THE WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, AND SILVERSMITH, Patents, Trade Marks, and Designs Department, 68, Fleet-street, London, E.C., and must in every case contain stamped and directed envelope for reply.

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A COLONIAL AND SHIPPING EDITION.

Our Latest Project.

We are constantly receiving solicitations both from abroad and from manufacturers at home to multiply extensively the publication of our Colonial number. Wholesalers abroad are perpetually asking us if we can oblige them with particulars of specialties in order that they may introduce them to their clients without waiting for the coming round of the time of publication of our annual Colonial Issue. It has long been felt that the trade between the Colonies and the mother country needed some means of being brought closer together, and infinitely more business would result if this could be effected. We have received many suggestions upon this point from Colonists, shippers, and wholesalers, for which we tender our thanks, and shall still be pleased to receive any others with which the manufacturers feel disposed to present us. It has been pointed out to us again and again, that there are numerous localities languishing for English goods, with which the present system does not bring them sufficiently in touch. Then there are other countries where comparatively a few houses have a monopoly, and export everything, from racehorses to darning needles, and from diamond crowns to military accoutrements. There are several such firms who, without anyone suspecting it, have become millionaires. Then there is another class of manufacturers in this country—and in our trade this class is a very large one—who are under certain obligations to certain houses not to advertise or supply the same goods to any other English firm. Such is the feeling of honor of some manufacturers that even when there has been no understanding that the goods should not be freely offered all round, they think it a little unfair to a good customer to let anyone else, who might perhaps cut down the retail price and spoil what is at present a good market, have the same goods. These, however, would have no objection to sending the goods out of the country, nor would the factors or retailers (as the case may be) be able to advance any reasonable objection either. Indeed, such manufacturers, we know, would be only too glad to find a foreign opening for their specialties. It is true the foreign trade lately has been in a bad state, owing to general commercial depression and other causes. People point back to the enormous trade we used to do with Australia, but forget in what period of its history this was. Australia was what South Africa is, and will be. After this little bubble is burst, people will realise what an important country it will be in the future; and few, if any, folks spend more in what pleases them than do South Africans. Amongst the various ideas suggested to us, none appear so desirable and likely to prove of such real value as to issue every month a Special Colonial and Shippers' Edition, consisting of the ordinary monthly edition, with a large supplement of pages specially designed for shippers and Colonial and foreign buyers only, and likely to cultivate useful trade connections. The edition will have no circulation whatever in this country, except among shippers, but a very extensive and very carefully selected currency abroad, from our special lists of buyers in the best markets. We are, indeed, so impressed with the good that would result from such an enterprise that we propose trying it, commencing with the first number of the New Year, concurrently with the ordinary edition. The Watchmaker, Jeweler, Silversmith and Optician will, then, in future consist of two editions, the ordinary one as heretofore, which will be supplied to subscribers and advertisers, and the Colonial and Shippers' Edition, which will be distributed in the channels already described.

OUR DIARY AND DESK BOOK FOR 1894.

We are pleased to inform our readers that our diary for 1894 will shortly be out, and that it will contain a large quantity of original and useful matter on subjects of everyday requirements, a great deal of which could not be found except in protracted researches over a large library. It will include several plates relating to hall-marking and gems; also, in response to a number of Gemmology students, we have reproduced the large diagram of the names, composition, optical, and physical properties, crystalline forms, etc., etc., of gems employed at the Polytechnic lectures. It will also contain a lot of matter useful and indispensable to the horologer. Every subscriber whose subscription is paid before publication is entitled to a copy free. Subscribers in arrears should remit their 5s. without delay to secure this handsome and useful presentation diary.

ALWAYS GET A RECEIPT FOR DELIVERY.

We have frequently endeavored to impress upon our readers the advisability—or even necessity—of getting a receipt for any article, however small, that is sent home. It is so easy to treat it as a parcel and get it entered into a parcels book. This is not only a check upon the porter, but exonerates him should its receipt be disputed. A case was tried the other day at the Bow County-court in which a woman sued a Leytonstone jeweler for six guineas, the represented value of a ring left to repair, but which she alleged had not been returned, and so far as receipts went the jeweler was certainly unable to prove the delivery of the ring. Fortunately there was circumstantial evidence, otherwise it might have gone very hard with the tradesman, who would have found himself open to any outrageous attempt at extortion. It appears that previous proceedings had been taken, when the ring was valued at £3 3s., in which case the summons was dismissed. In this action its value had been mysteriously raised to £6 6s. The jeweler stated that the ring was worth about 12s. 6d. and that he had delivered it to the woman herself, whose husband then kept the canteen, and that amongst the items of the bill paid the one of 1s. 6d. for repairing ring referred to the ring in question. Fortunately the husband of the woman saw the ring handed over to her, and witnessed its delivery. Otherwise in all probability the case would have gone against the defendant; which shows the necessity of getting a receipt for everything delivered.

UNPROTECTED LOCK-UP SHOPS.

The daring and outrageous daylight robbery at Scarborough, which for cool, impudent audacity stands at the head of the annals of burglary, again brings forcibly before us the fact that although familiarity may bring contempt, it does not bring commensurate safety. Here a valuable stock, becauses it reposes in a palatial habitation, is left for two hours in the middle of the day, while the assistant takes his lunch and promenade; and the valuables are separated from the world of all sorts that congregate at a fashionable seaside resort by a simple lock. Can we wonder that the movements of such a caretaker were observed by the crooks, and that they should have taken advantage of the opportunity thus afforded, and entered in and made a clean sweep of everything? Certainly not! We wonder after it is over how such a clearance could have been made, but there were circumstances which mitigated things immensely. It was the last day of the season, when the shop is closed and the stock withdrawn. This, of course, was well-known to the crooks, and, doubtless, had the police seen the thieves at work the defenders of property would have considered they were only "clearing the shop," as indeed they were, of some £5,000 of stock, with which, we regret to say, they got clear away. Probably no one would expect so valuable a stock to be thus left unprotected, and we hope it will be a warning to all who keep similar establishments not to leave them to the tender mercies of thieves and vagabonds.

"HER MAJESTY'S CLOCKMAKER."

Few things are more plentiful in the West End than jewelers "to her Majesty," chemists "to her Majesty," dyers "to her Majesty"—indeed, the last distinction can often be found in quite out of the way towns, into which Royalty never enters. In Scotland, however, things are often so different that it is difficult to realise we belong to one nation under one rule. In few cases, perhaps, is the difference more apparent than in the appointment of "Her Majesty's Clockmaker." In England, if a tradesman by any chance happens to sell a clock to the Sovereign, or put in a new glass to one of her carriage timepieces, he forthwith considers himself entitled to the distinction of "Clockmaker to Her Majesty." In Scotland the horologer is a recognised member of the Royal household, and although it is a privilege which is supposed to last for the term of natural life, it may be given up; as recently in the case of the resignation of J. M. Bryson. But, despite the quaintness of the preliminaries, a new horologer has recently been installed with all the ceremony becoming so high a function. Hitherto this high office received the extravagant remuneration of £16 16s. per annum, but now things are altered, and her Majesty's new clockmaker will be paid piece work, which will probably give greater satisfaction, as one wonders what had to be done for that money. In one of the country seats now in sight to our knowledge there are over sixty clocks, but what must that be compared with all her Majesty's clocks, watches, and pendulums in palaces and houses in Her Majesty's ancient kingdom of Scotland! Let us hope that the newly honored one will find it a more profitable engagement than his predecessor.

The warrant appointing Mr. Inches as clockmaker is rather a quaintly-worded document, type-written over a ten shilling stamp, on two pages of foolscap, and bound with green silk. The huge official seal occupies a goodly portion of the surface of the first page. It also bears, in addition to the Scottish Secretary's signature, the sign manual of the Queen—the "Victoria R." heading the front page. It runs as follows: "Dover House, Whitehall. Our Sovereign Lady, considering that the place and office of Her Majesty's Clockmaker and Keeper and Dresser of Her Majesty's Clocks, Watches, and Pendulums in Palaces and Houses in Her Ancient Kingdom of Scotland is vacant in Her Majesty's hands by the resignation of James Mackay Bryson and at Her Majesty's Royal Gift and Disposition, and Her Majesty being informed of the qualifications and fitness of Robert Kirk Inches, clockmaker, of Edinburgh, to exercise the same, and his affection for Her Majesty's service: Therefore Her Majesty ordains a letter to be passed under Her Majesty's Privy Seal to Her said Kingdom of Scotland, giving and disposing unto the said Robert Kirk Inches during all the days of his lifetime the said place and office of Clockmaker and Keeper and Dresser of Her Majesty's Clocks, Watches and Pendulums in Her said Kingdom of Scotland, to be enjoyed and exercised for the space aforesaid, but without salary, the said Robert Kirk Inches being paid such remuneration for work actually performed by him as may by the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury be deemed right and proper. Given at Her Majesty's Court of St. James, this 11th day of September, 1893, in the fifty-seventh year of Her Majesty's reign. By Her Majesty's command—George Otto Trevelyan." Of course it could not be expected that this important "function" would end here. When the important document was signed, sealed and delivered to the new member of the Royal Household, he was requested to present it at the office of the Privy Seal in Edinburgh, in order to complete the appointment. Then, however, came a little comedy, as the Edinburgh officials felt themselves quite unable to improve upon the work so elaborately carried out at headquarters. No doubt this old sixteen guineas was fixed in the dim and distant past, and religiously adhered to, like a certain southern seaport town council continued to pay the same rent for a piece of land as had always been paid, although upon inquiries the other day it was admitted that the land was unknown and must have gone under the Channel in remote times. The faithful discharge of the conditions of the above office for £16 16s. per annum is about on a par with the Dean of St. Stephen's keeping charge of the clock for sixpence a day.

MARKETS.

Diamonds.

London, October 28th.—During the early part of the month there was a decided improvement, and demands for rough were on the increase. This, despite the bad times, soon reacted upon prices, which accordingly went up proportionately to the demand. There is also some demand for cut stuff for the Christmas trade, but bargains are very hardly driven. There was a rather large influx of Dutch buyers, and because the market happens to be in London they all think that when stuff rises—as any marketable article will—it is owing to the tyranny of the London trade, and if they only could get the market to the Land of Dykes, diamonds could be bought for next to nothing!

Amsterdam, October 26th.—Although we cannot boast any great improvement in our market, there is a more general show of activity. Usually through the summer months diamond mills are kept steady, in order to provide finished goods for the autumn trade. This year, however, through the unprecedented cessation all round, many mills had stopped working; but the workable stock was very low, and now that an improvement in demand has set in finished goods are readily bought as soon as they get upon the market. Merchants, however, feel somewhat afraid to speculate very much, owing to their previous losses. The greatest drawback to our trade is the rise which the English market made in the rough as soon as ever a little improvement was felt, and is another instance of how necessary it is for us to manage to transfer the diamond market for rough from London to Amsterdam. As I have often said, I am sure the English merchants will kill the goose that lays the golden egg.

Paris, October 27th.—We are in the midst of fêtes and ovations, the Boulevards are crowded, the city is full of strangers, the retail trade is in full activity, and mounted diamonds are receiving a good share of prosperity. This, of course, reacts upon the wholesale trade, which, coupled with an increased demand from abroad, has helped to make a slight advance in prices. Some Americans are also expected, who will help to swell up the Christmas trade.

Silver.

Owing to the state of the Sherman Purchasing Clause in America, nothing very decisive has taken place in the price of the precious white metal. The market, however, has been affected all through the month, according to the prospects of each of the great parties. Opening at 34⅛d. it gave way ¼d., at which it remained firm for a week, but moved about a bit during the next few days, touching ⅝d.; but since then, with small alterations on either side, it has averaged about 33¾d., and is now 33⅛d.

Tin.

The tin market has been in a miserable condition. Commencing at only 2s. 6d. below £80, it kept dwindling down day by day till it reached £78 2s. 6d.; since then a 7s. 6d. rise has taken place.

Copper.

With the red metal, although things have been very flat, there has been more life and motion. Opening at £41 16s. 3d., it hopped about to the extent of 5s. on either side, a shilling or two at a time, and now stands at £42 3s. 9d.

Spelter.

Spelter has varied from £17 1s. 3d. to £16 15s., and is now about midway between the two prices.

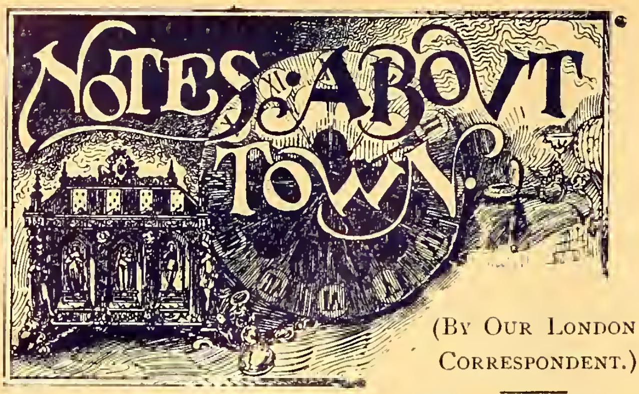
Mercury.

Mercury has been absolutely stationary at £6 10s.

Mother-o'-Pearl.

At the October sales there was probably more shell changed hands than ever known before. In most instances the prices were a little easier, but almost everything sold, despite the large quantity. The differences on bold were about 10s, thin declined 20s., and defective about 5s. There was about 500 Australian. Bold and medium clear white fine, £6 to £6 17s. 6d.; fine ditto, £7 15s. Manilla often reached last prices, but went off rather slowly, sometimes showing a decline, bold selling at £8 to £8 10s.; chicken, £5 to £5 5s.; bold wormy pickings, 67s. to 70s.; pieces, 100s. to 105s.

Wanted a Tower Clock.—We understand that a large number of the inhabitants of Devonport are awaiting someone to take the initiative, and they will assist with the needful, to obtain an illuminated clock for the Devonport Public Hall.


NOTES ABOUT TOWN.

(By Our London Correspondent.)

If we admit—and admit we must—that we are passing through a commercial crisis, then I suppose we ought to say we have much for which to be thankful. Everybody is grumbling, and some sorely so. Here and there one meets with a qualification, "but I suppose we ought to be thankful, it might perhaps be worse;" while yet again, in houses that do more of an order than "across the counter" trade, we hear of a difficulty of getting work done owing to the coal famine. At one time in the month things looked as if they were going to settle down again into at least no worse condition than before the lock-out. Public sympathy being more with the men in this than in any other conflict between capital and labor, it appeared that a settling down to the old state of things was inevitable.

November is now upon us, and we ought to be quite able to speak with certainty about Christmas novelties; yet he would be a rash man who would venture to predict which of the not very numerous novelties that are now seeking popularity will come out first in the Christmas race.

I always notice that if the milliner and dressmaker manage to turn the current of fashion first, jewelry must of necessity follow. The heaven-aspiring tendencies of all hats, bonnets, and headgear, together with the donnings at recent fashionable gatherings, point out that the aigrette will be called into fashion once more. Indeed, there are several of the West End firms who are showing new conceptions in these articles of adornment. There is so much to be said for them; they transform the diminutive to average height, they make the slim graceful and elegant, and they correct the extra stoutness of the lady in years.

Most of the aigrettes are more fly-away than at any other period. In a great favorite a curling serpent may be seen, twisting in between the expanded limbs of the jewel, sometimes in all diamonds, at others in colored gems.

The new moons are still favorites, but have received several modifications. Usually the moon is fixed obliquely on a wire that passes across the front of the head, covered by the hair, and occupying the same position as it does on the goddess Diana. In one very effective variety there spring from its lower horn aigrette-like spangles, which sometimes turn in the opposite direction to the crescent, and so form a somewhat symmetrical figure; at others they turn sharply at right angles, high over the back of the head, the wire upon which they are set being very springy, which gives rise to great scintillation.

In many other instances the idea of the crescent is almost obliterated by the employment of foliage or flowers. Few things have, perhaps, been introduced where so large a show and good effect can be obtained for the quantity of stones employed as in a simple close spray, bent in the form of a crescent. Two or three grains of stuff so disposed appear as quite an important piece of jewelry, while a carat or six grains looks quite queenly. Many geometric designs are also employed for these modified new moons with charming effect, and are really very chaste objects.

I am extremely pleased to see the revival of fine enamel work, and one of the most charming combinations of this work with pearls, diamonds, and colored gold, can be seen not far from the National Gallery, at the establishment of one of the foremost men in the trade. This is altogether different from the colored enamel and gem work of which I have often spoken lately, and which has been illustrated in the supplements of the Watchmaker, Jeweler and Silversmith.

It cannot be denied that, beautiful, quiet, and chaste though it be, the ordinary colored gold half-pearl work, either with or without the introduction of diamonds, has had a long run; and the skilful firm who have so long retained almost a monopoly ought to have turned its attention to a new variation a year or two ago.

With the pre-eminent position of turquoise in fashion's fickle favor, the blue waxy gem has been wedded to the pearl in jewelry of this class; but although nice, there is always something that appears wanting. The fact is the contrast between the lustre of the two stones is not sufficient for either to be fully enhanced. Hence it is that the introduction of enamels will result in far more pleasing effects.

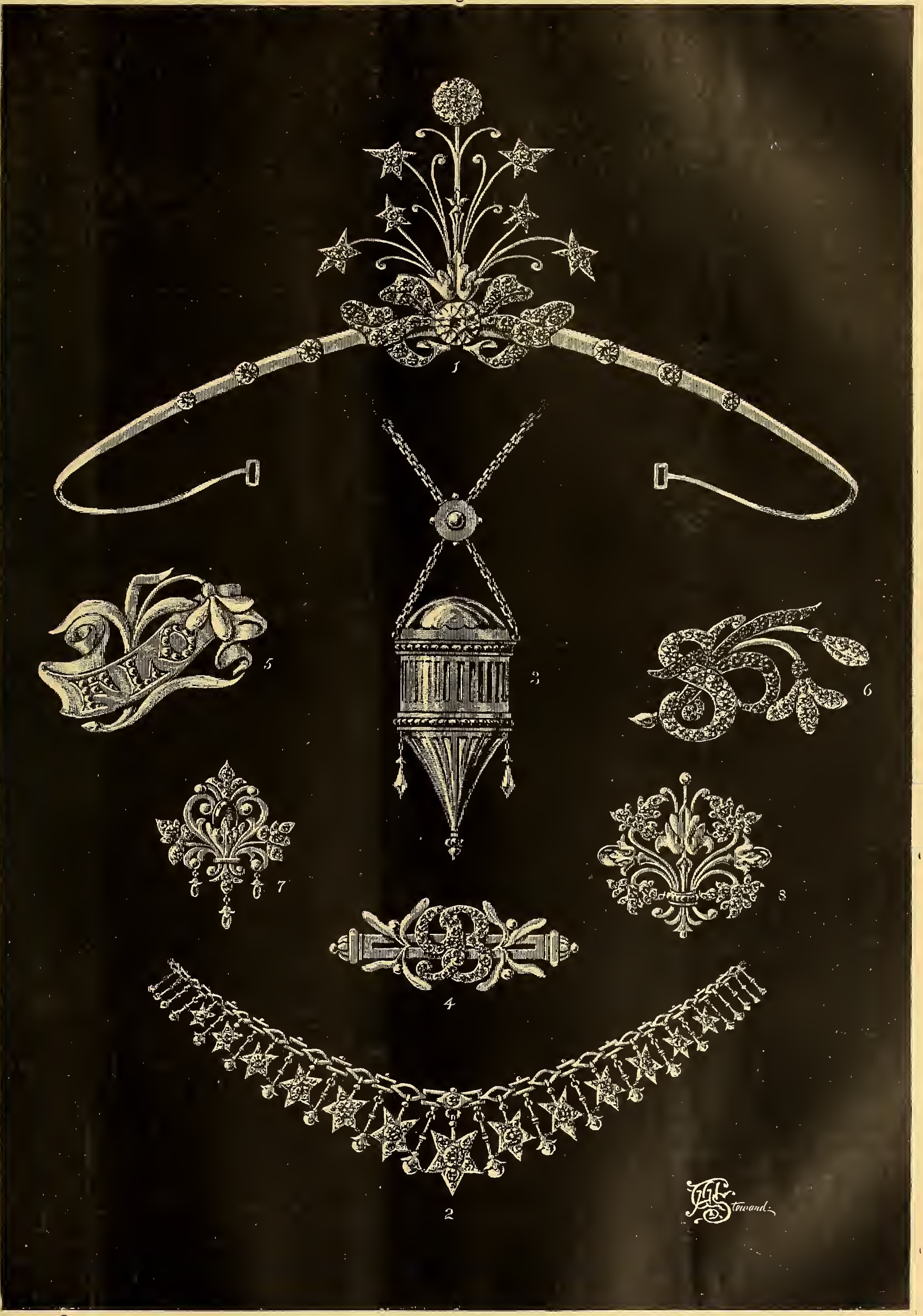
The colors introduced into the new jewelry which ought—so far as merit is concerned—to take the lead in the Christmas trade are transparent, and the hues are usually cherry red and dark green, with the judicious introduction of little edgings of white.

The patterns for necklaces are what one would call something of the box and pillar patterns, the enamelled or diamond-centred flower occupying an oblong box of about an inch by one quarter, and the pillar carrying the pearls two-thirds or so as long, and one-third or one-half the width. I remember seeing something of the sort from the brush of the skilful artist of Messrs. Eady, Paris, and Eady, some time ago, and have often dreamed about them since.

This reminds me of the shower of beautiful designs that have appeared in connection with the Oriental bracelet lately referred to. In the new productions the stones are replaced with daisies, trefoils, beehives, and a number of other objects, and highly finished in bright and colored gold. It is beyond all question that these bracelets make the most show for the money of anything that has been put upon the market for a very, very long time. It may, perhaps, be urged that in some cases they are only old friends in a new dress, but the three ornaments enumerated are always great favorites, and for those who require something *de novo* there also exists a great variety.

Turquoise still keeps in popular favor, and what with the late discoveries of the gem both in America and Australia, there appears to be quite a good supply of them on the market. Chrysoprase also still holds its own, and is as freely imitated as ever. I noticed the other day in a window of a good house a run of articles all marked chrysoprase, but in the whole row I should not think there were more than three specimens of that stone, the rest being either dyed chalcedony or other imitations. Amongst the other very nice articles of jewelry in chrysoprase one might make a reference to cuff links; these are usually made with one member more

Supplement to the
WATCHMAKER, JEWELER AND SILVERSMITH.



rounded or oval, either of gold or gold and gems, and the other of a torpedo-shaped chrysoprase rivetted through the centre.

Amongst small things I have recently noticed a pencil brooch. It is a reeded body with knob ends, one of which is part of the pencil; the latter is withdrawn from the case or body when required for use, and replaced when done with. It is a very strong, serviceable, and useful article, and looks well.

The little cases of liqueur and half-a-dozen tiny glasses are on the increase, and scores of new patterns are to be seen in the West End. They certainly are so different from anything else as to claim to be regarded as novelties.

When one sees silver forks and spoons marked up 4s. 6d. an ounce in retail shops, there is no wonder that silver is replacing electro-plate, and one is tempted to wonder where the profit comes in.

The old bronzed rivetted copper ware is being revived in all the old English and Dutch patterns, silver mounted and gilt lined; or even gold mounted. I must say the thought of drinking out of old copper beakers is too strongly suggestive of copper poisoning to give a relish to a draught from one of them. They may be very well for ornament, but if a humble penny glass were to hand I should prefer it to the resurrectionised old copper ware.

The long-trayed five o'clock tea sets are also increasing; the quaint proportions have taken on well, and numerous new patterns have arrived. One in which the china is of rustic black, gilt mounted, and white inside, with angular ebony fittings, forms a most quaint pattern, and would gain even from an American the admission of "That's odd!"

Messrs. Godwin have recently had on view the complete gold toilet set which they have made for the Khedive Abbas Hilmi. It consists of twenty-seven pieces, some, such as the mirror, the fez stand, hand glass, pincushion, scent bottles, and powder jars, of considerable size. In every position one sees the initials "A.H." intertwined, and surmounted by a royal crown in brilliants, no less than 1,200 stones having been used for the purpose. The chasing of the gold, in the Renaissance style of cupids and scrolls, has been entirely executed by an English workman. The dressing-case which the set is to fit was the property of the late Khedive Tewfik, and is in ebony enriched with brass work and marqueterie, lined with rich blue velvet. The whole is a standard of English goldsmith's work.

A great diamond robbery recently occurred in the garden, or rather from the house, of a cutter in Kirby-street. The stones ought to have been locked up in the safe at night, but next morning they and one of the workmen were minus. News was soon circulated, and apprehension in Paris soon followed.

A Cheap Incandescent Lamp at Last.—On the 10th inst. the patent for incandescent lamps which has been the monopoly of the Swan Edison Co. expires, and with it pass bitter memories of lost actions and fortunes squandered, through legislation which never ought to have been allowed to exist. But let the dead bury their dead! No more will the monopoly of the adapters of what was known a generation ago be able to close factories, and walk into your shop and demand that you take off a lamp which is the legitimate improvement of an honorable workman, paid for in good English money! No longer will it be necessary to pay 3s. 9d. to 25s. for such necessities as incandescent lamps. They will now be sold for 1s. Fancy what lambs we have all been to pay 3s. 9d. and upwards for what ought to have been supplied for 1s. or perhaps less! With lamps at 1s. each and the current laid on by a not extortionate company, or even driven by a small gas engine from one's own dynamo, the matchless and desirable electric light will now be within the reach of all jewelers.

OUR SPECIAL PLATE.

No. 1. Design for convertible aigrette-tiara and brooch, the bow and aigrette spray being detachable and convertible, so that the tiara can be used with or without the spray. To be executed in diamonds. Colored stones could also be introduced.

No. 2. New design for necklace. Conventionalised ivy leaves *en suite* with the above; to be executed in diamonds and pearls, and to be finished light and bright. It would also form an excellent pattern for half-pearl work, in which case, of course, the gold would be colored. The links could be rivetted, or got out of solid wire; in the latter case the oval links would have a somewhat similar shaping to a curb link, the front half, however, bending downwards, and the back half upwards.

No. 3. Novel idea for watch and scent-bottle chatelaine in colored gold, into which either turquoise, pearls, or enamel could be introduced. In the lid snugly reposes the watch surmounted by a convex crystal, while opening the lid discloses the scent bottle.

No. 4. Design for Christmas 1893 brooch, the season being represented by the emblematical flower—mistletoe—issuing from either side of the 1893. The background should be in gold; the date in diamonds; the mistletoe in green gold; and the berries in pearls, the number of which could be increased from one's to small clusters of two's or three's.

No. 5. Snowdrop and name brooch. The scroll in gold; the letters in pearls; the flowers and leaves enamelled in their natural colors. This would make a charming little New Year brooch.

No. 6. Snowdrop and initial brooch. The letter and the petals of the flower in diamonds; the leaves and the calyces in emeralds, thus getting as near as possible to nature. For the snowdrop could be substituted the orange blossom, and the jewel would become a charming bridesmaids' brooch.

No. 7. Scroll brooch. To be executed in gold, with diamonds and cabochon-cut rubies, the drops to swing. Pear-shape pearls could be employed instead of the rubies.

No. 8. A scroll brooch in diamonds and rubies, or diamonds and pearls, into which enamel is introduced, such as has been frequently described lately in the pages of the Watchmaker, Jeweler, Silversmith, and Optician.

"Cutlers' Poetry."—A curious old couplet in a seventeenth century ring is worth quoting:—

> In God above and Christ His Sonne,
> We two are joyned both in one.

Another of about the same date has the following:—

> As I expect so let me find
> A faithful heart and constant mind.

LIBRARY
NOV 13 1893
PATENT OFFICE

A New Tower Clock for Bridgetown, Totnes.—J. W. Benson, Ludgate Hill, has recently erected in the church tower of the above place a three 4ft. 6in. illuminated dial clock, striking the hours and half hours upon an 8cwt. bell. The same firm also recently put up a copper dial timester in the church of Swaffham, Norfolk, and, as usual, have several others in course of construction.

Complete Destruction of a Jeweler's by Fire.—On the 14th ult. one of the most disastrous fires that have taken place for years occurred at the lock-up premises of Steel and Sons, Royal Avenue, Belfast. The premises were left quite safe on the night of the 13th ult., but early the next morning a passer by noticed smoke issuing from them and at once conveyed an alarm to the fire station. By the most strenuous efforts the adjoining buildings on all sides were saved, but of the jewelers' only the walls and girders were left standing. The stock was valued at £8,000, and was insured for £6,200 in the British and Mercantile, £2,000 in the Atlas, and £300 in the Guardian. Owing, we suppose, to the extra care and watchfulness bestowed upon jewelry premises, fortunately we have less fires than any other trade; a feature which ought to be brought into prominence when effecting assurances.

BIRMINGHAM
NOTES

(By Our Own Correspondent.)*

I am sorry that I am unable to report any improvement in business for October. Indeed, it has been distinctly worse than in September, which, of course, is entirely opposed to the usual experience. As a rule, when trade begins to freshen at the end of August or the commencement of September, the tide rolls in with gathering strength right away up to Christmas. Of course it may be that the present lull is only a passing cloud, but after the very favorable way in which we went through September, such a marked relapse is considerably more depressing than it would otherwise have been. The protracted nature of the struggle in the coal trade is undoubtedly telling very heavily on nearly every branch of industry, and of course a fancy trade suffers much worse than any other. So it happens that the hopes which were raised by the improvement in September have been disappointed up to the present, and reports from the country do not afford a prospect of any immediate betterment. Buyers do not seem to have spirit for the smallest speculation, and many are content to wait before replenishing even the most saleable lines.

It is quite certain that the present state of affairs is causing widespread difficulty both amongst factors and manufacturers, and particularly to the latter, numbers of whom have held on and endured the losses and disappointments of the summer in the hope of recouping themselves by the autumn trade. There are still some seven or eight weeks' business to look forward to, and if anything like a favorable change occurs those makers who carry large stocks will doubtless manage to put through a considerable number of sales; but for the small capitalist working from hand to mouth the opportunity to execute a rush of orders is almost gone.

The continued uncertainty as to the ultimate price of silver does not seem to be having such a bad effect as might have been anticipated. Curiously enough, many electroplate firms are doing a big business in silver, to the detriment of the inferior branch of their business. I hear of one firm that has actually achieved a record turnover in this new departure. Whether this result has been gained by the too familiar method of cutting the prices I have not been able to ascertain, but I fear that it is a course followed in only too many cases.

The constant dropping of prices, which is mainly produced by playing maker against maker, is really one of the most serious features of business at the present time, and a not unnatural fear of being "cut out" causes this policy to be adopted by many respectable makers. These are frequently men of experience, who ought to know better than yield to mere temporary pressure. Many prices now quoted *must* of necessity be unremunerative, and it would ultimately redound both to the dignity and profit of makers if a stand were made against them. It is a mere fallacy to argue that because A is taking orders at an imaginary profit, therefore B must go and do likewise. It seems to me that B will generally do much better to look keenly after his designs and finish, and stand out for a *fair* price. He knows very well that A is not making money by his transactions, and as he cannot make more than a certain quantity of goods other makers must secure the order for the remainder. Usually, too, the career of the "cutter" is brief. Losses come to him as to other traders, and he is generally less able to bear them. Then comes bankruptcy and annihilation, *but the cut price remains as a standard for the buyer.*

The failure of F. J. Carter, of Vyse-street, to which reference was made in last month's Notes, calls for searching inquiry either by the creditors or by the Association on their behalf. The amount is comparatively small, no doubt, but from what I hear the way in which the concern has been managed, or rather mismanaged, is simply scandalous. According to the latest statements the amount to be divided amongst the creditors will be either absolutely nil or very near it.

It is a pity that steps were not taken earlier in the year to secure something like adequate police protection for the district. The arrangements now being negotiated under the auspices of the Association do not seem to be making much progress, and meantime reports to hand show that the burglary season has come round once more. The jewelers' district is almost entirely deserted after ten o'clock at night, and offers such a field for a clever gang that I should not be much surprised to hear at any time of some colossal *coup* having taken place.

A good deal of speculation has been going on during the last few weeks as to the legality of depositing goods as security for loans. I am sorry to hear that several of our local banks are serious offenders in this respect and readily accept parcels of diamonds or other valuables as a set-off against overdrafts. In some cases these deposits are actually worth several thousands of pounds, covering over and over again the sums advanced. I am told of a comparatively recent case where a parcel of brilliants was purchased, and transferred within a few hours to the custody of a bank (?). It is a question whether banks, not being licensed pawnbrokers, are acting quite within their legal rights in securing themselves in this way, more particularly in cases such as I have mentioned, where the goods have only just been purchased. The assistance afforded to fraudulent traders by the more unscrupulous among the pawnbrokers is a great enough evil to the trade at large, without being supplemented by that of institutions which ought to be the soul of commercial purity. Cases of this kind ought to be publicly announced in detail instead of being relegated to the miscellaneous discussion of a creditors' meeting. If this were done regularly the offenders would speedily be marked, and a little judicious boycotting would be very effective in convincing them of the enormity of their proceeding. Individual traders cannot of course be expected to engage in a legal action against a wealthy banking company, which would carry the matter through to the bitter end, but I fancy the remedy I have indicated would soon produce a more satisfactory state of things.

Cannot something be done to regulate the constant influx of juvenile labor into the already overcrowded ranks of the workmen? If possible some steps should be taken, if not in the interests of the boys, at any rate in that of the men. A man gets two, three, or four boys of varying degrees of skill to work for him, and the combination sets to work to produce as much common stuff as possible. The lads never properly learn their trade, and as soon as they require a man's wages they have to shift for themselves, and immediately become either another small lever for the reduction of wages or else an addition to the vast army of the unemployed. The great majority, fully eight out of ten, I should think, fail to get employment at the board and become garret workers, porters, or anything else that opens up. A great deal of unfair competition, both present and future, results from this practice, and considering the benefit it would be to the trade generally, one would like to see some scheme agreed on and *loyally carried out* to diminish the evil.

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

I WOULD suggest an allowance of one boy to each man until the boy had received three or four years' instruction, and then a second might be allowed on similar terms. The too prevalent evil of a useful lad being decoyed from a shop by the offer of a higher wage might also be remedied by the agreement on a fixed scale. Of course there are other details which would have to be arranged, but I see no insuperable difficulty in carrying out some such scheme as I have indicated, and the advantages to all concerned are obvious.

I AM sorry to have to record the death of Mr. W. Westwood, who has been head of the Birmingham Assay Office for many years.

THE present seems a favorable opportunity for the trade to press for a reorganisation of assay matters generally. The Office as it exists now is an unnecessary tax on industry for the benefit of a few individuals, some of whom have no knowledge of the trade, and are, therefore, quite unfitted to legislate for its requirements. As at present worked it exhibits a fine example of unblushing tyranny towards the poorer firms, with an effusive servility towards the wealthy ones, which ill accords with the civility and impartiality the trade has a right to expect from what ought to be a public institution. I don't suppose we should get on any better if the Office were really the Government department which most people imagine it is. What is required is a Board of Wardens composed of *practical manufacturers*, duly elected by holders of plate licences. One-third of the Board would retire annually and be ineligible for re-election. I would allow each Warden a few guineas to cover any expense he might be put to in his public duty—say ten guineas annually—and the profits made by the office might be funded for trade charities, art and technical education, etc. With a fair scale of charges, however, and a proper remuneration to makers for the careless damage so regularly inflicted on the work marked, the net profits would show a big decrease. The Wardens might, as an experiment, say for three months, try a reduction of 25 per cent. on their present charges. In the present hard times such a relief would be very welcome to every manufacturer and might tend to allay some of the resentment which is undoubtedly felt at the way things are administered.

MESSRS. J. SMITH AND Co., of Vyse-street, Birmingham, possess a special plant for the manufacture of gents' hall-marked and other alberts. Good value and finish is assured.

WE have recently inspected some excellent cheap brooches in silver, and in 9-carat gold, also in silver with gold mounted ornamentations, manufactured by Messrs. Hepburn and Wilcox, of Birmingham. One pattern that engaged our attention is a silver brooch in the form of a double heart with a very tasteful spray of gilt flowers and leaves running up each side, with a butterfly in the centre. The firm's "Mizpah" brooches are remarkably well finished, in fact, buyers should get samples of their new designs both in silver and gold. Messrs. Hepburn are making new designs in small (hall-marked) earrings in pretty shapes with lapped ornaments, besides scarf-pins in a variety of patterns.

THE CHICAGO AWARDS.

RECENTLY we had the pleasure of announcing that Messrs. Weill and Co., of 3, Holborn Circus, E.C., had taken a gold medal at the Kimberley Exhibition. They have now scored at the great Chicago Exhibition, where the competition was far greater than at Kimberley, and where practically the whole world vied with each other to come out universal champions; and when we take into consideration that it is a first prize, and that it was bestowed for a specially fine exhibit of complicated watches of all descriptions, such as minute and quarter repeaters, perpetual calendars, clock watches, and notably chronographs of all kinds, the trade will admit that the various compliments all have paid this firm for some of their productions from time to time have been well deserved, and that the result is really no more than one ought to expect. The Americans, like their British cousins, thoroughly appreciated the merits of such chronographs as the "Ascot," the double split seconds known as "the winner." The whole of the American press, whether belonging to the trade or otherwise, were unanimous in their laudation of the magnificent displays of complicated work, long before the awards were made, which makes the award of a first prize all the more valuable and important and reflects greater credit upon the firm's productions. We are not sure whether their latest child, "the Tattersall," was amongst the exhibits, as this to our mind is a remarkable instrument at the ridiculously low price at which it is sold. We do not believe in things getting cheaper and cheaper, but when we take this chronograph in our hands and test the quickness of its action and the absolute absence of shake, we cannot help asking the question, to what are things coming?

Bankruptcy Expenses.

THE creditors of C. and W. Scott and Co., of Ely-place, London, have some interesting reading in the report of the trustee of the estate. It appears from this interesting document that only £534 9s. 5d. was realised out of the nominal assets. Of this £127 11s. 2d. went to preferential creditors, and the whole of the balance has gone in legal and other expenses, so the ordinary creditor absolutely does not get one farthing of dividend. We should think a copy of the report ought to be distributed throughout the trade as a sample of the way in which officials of various kinds eat up an estate. The trustee's remuneration is put down at £159, or nearly 30 per cent. on the amount; then we have auctioneer £45 16s. 2d., over £100 for Board of Trade fees and law charges, "incidental outlay £21 11s. 4d.," and "other payments £60 13s." Can anyone wonder for a moment at the enormous increase in the number of private arrangements when official Justice absorbs one-fifth of an estate for doing nothing? We recollect the local association tried very hard to get the estate into their hands, but the London creditors were too strong for it. Perhaps they recognise the folly of their opposition now and will be content to let Birmingham try its hand on the next case of the kind. A little matter of this kind, if realised by an interested committee without assistance from gentlemen of the long robe, might easily have produced £250 or £300 for dividend. Of course we am quite aware that the amount for each creditor would have been infinitesimal, but at any rate it would have been better than nothing.

The Production of Watches by the Thousand per Day.—Since English readers have questioned the figures recently put forward of the numbers of watches made in America, figures of Swiss manufacture would also perhaps be received with the same surprise. However, we append the list of cases *hall marked* from the following places for September. From this some idea of the Swiss trade can be estimated, as well as the class of watch supplied by each place. Of course this does not include those not hall marked:—

	Gold.	Silver.	Totals.
Bienne	1,210	26,426	27,636
Chaux-de-Fonds ...	30,029	3,541	33,570
Fleurier	606	6,741	7,347
Genève	1,327	3,165	4,492
Granges (Soleure)...	115	16,801	16,916
Locle	5,947	3,123	9,070
Neuchâtel	—	571	571
Noirmont	1,157	7,958	9,115
Porrentruy... ...	1,097	25,007	26,104
Saint-Imier ...	6	14,527	14,533
Schaffhouse ...	122	4,910	5,032
Tramelan	2,319	36,067	38,386
Total ...	43,935	148,837	192,772

DIAMOND FIELD NOTES

(By Vaalite.)

Kimberley, Sept. 27th, 1893.

I suppose that news about war will be considered of little interest to your readers, despite the subjective effect that such a thing might have on the productions of South Africa, upon which the jewelry trade so largely depend for their supplies. I will therefore leave that undesirable subject out of my notes and proceed to something more obviously connected with the precious stone and metal trade. The position of the great Combine remains unaltered so far as its monopoly and regulation of prices are concerned, and at present there appears no likelihood of easing of prices, despite the general bad condition of trade. When the last half million sale was made the buyers had the option of the next sale at a further 5 per cent. increase, and now everybody appears as eager to get hold of diamonds as if they were at a minimum.

What a marvellous thing the De Beers has developed into! Their sales for the last half-year, although somewhat restricted, reached £1,843,779, the average price being 30s. 7d. per carat, against 24s. 7½d. of the previous half-year; and of course compared with the prices before the amalgamation the difference is much greater, as then it was sometimes below a pound. The entire revenue to June 30th was £3,380,000, expenses £1,170,000, showing a gross profit of £2,201,000, and a net profit of £1,673,000, £1,000,000 of which went in dividends. There was also an increase of blue on the floors of half a million loads. The latest rumor that I hear is that the company are likely to buy Ward out of Wesselton. I have frequently pointed out that the yield of the blue is not constant, sometimes it is very poor for a long time, and an average is usually made, a hundred loads being taken as the unit. I hear that a very rich part in the blue has just been struck by De Beers Co.

The latest thing in connection with this company is, that they have just got the worst of an action, which may lead to unsuspected results, and necessitate some extensive outlays, or further amalgamation. The company, as your readers are aware, are the tenants of the London and South Africa Exploration Company, and hold leases from them of their property. Now, it so happens that there is a provision in one of the leases of the floors at Du Toit's Pan, that should the ground be discovered to be diamondiferous the De Beers should give it up to the London and South Africa Exploration Company. In the days of next to starvation to many, occasioned by the shutting down of the other mines bought up by the Combine, everyone has been poking about on his own account, and discovering here and there unmistakable evidences of diamond mines.

Some of their discoveries are on the old floors. A syndicate is formed under the name of the Alice, who buy up a site from the L. and S.A. Ex. Co., but the De Beers refuse to give up possession; but upon appeal they get the worst of it. An examination was duly made, a quantity of the stuff washed, in the presence of duly appointed representatives, a diamond mine proved to exist, and the big De Beers had to give up. Up to the present, I believe, about 200 claims have been taken, but I expect it will reach 600.

Nor do things stop here. I have it on the very best authority that the L. and S.A. have every reason to believe there is at least one more diamond mine near by, and that they intend letting it out. They are also assured by several other syndicates that other mines have been found, and that those syndicates are willing to take up leases of the ground for the purpose of diamond mining.

What the end of this will be no one can say. You will remember with what scorn and ridicule Ward was looked upon for a long time; but had it not been for the wonderful forethought and scheming of the Premier, the big mine would have entirely broken up the Combine, and if these mines turn out as well as the Premier Mine, they will either materially influence the power of the De Beers, or the latter will either have to buy them up or amalgamate with the London and South Africa Exploration Company. If your readers take the trouble to read back numbers of your valuable journal, they will see how this parallels the early history of the Premier or Wesselton Mine.

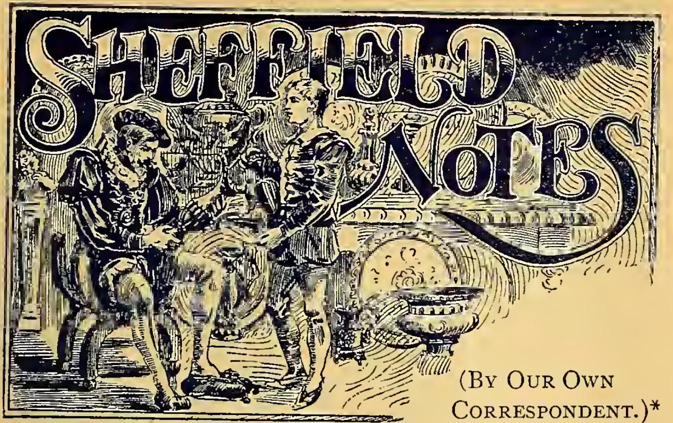
I sent you word last month of the sad fate of the N. E. Bultfontein; that it produced large quantities of good diamonds is well known to you all. Their output was generally given, and to sum up one might observe that in the three years the company have been working they have produced 289,000 carats of diamonds, which have realised £282,000. But it is a case of "absentee landlordism" over again; the London board and the home debts and obligations and heavy debts ate it up, so that the only thing to save it in the future was for it to pass into liquidation. The liquidator, however, has been working, and fully paying expenses, but it will probably require 10s. a share to re-start it. When once started, however, with a fair chance, nothing but success can possibly follow, as the yield has been thirty carats to the 100 loads, which of course is very high compared with any other mine.

On October 21st the Jagersfontein will once more be in a position to accept tenders for the output. The contract will be for not less than three months or more than six. When we see the nature of this contract, we shall be able to enter upon a little amateur prophesying as to the prices likely to be maintained in the market. Their output for September was 19,980 carats, which realised no less than £43,956, so that £2 a carat is not in it; it also shows a great increase compared with August, when 16,733 carats were obtained, which realised £32,171, which was below £2.

The Monastery mine is looking well. A shaft has been sunk 90ft. into the blue, and an average of fifteen carats per hundred load has been maintained, many of the stones being very good, and getting better. Captain Tonkin has now in his possession over 300 carats. They have been washing about 100 loads a day; 1,436 loads gave 106 carats. But the expenses are unbelieveably low, washing costing only 7½d. compared with about 15s. at other mines. I hear of quite a number of new discoveries of more or less promise. In one place, seven miles from Krondstadt, is a large depression which holds water, and is locally known as the "inland sea." Diamonds have been picked up here for the last twenty years, and evidences all point to its being a veritable mine, resembling some of the other large ones. There are several other localities where farms have been taken and diamonds certainly found. From Vredefort I have also seen a number of garnets and ilmenite ("carbon," as the miners call it). At Dreikopjes a large amount of blue has been hauled, and now awaits rain to assist in its pulverisation.

Mr. Lionel Blanckensee.—We are informed that Mr. H. T. Fisher, who has represented Messrs. Johnson since 1885, has transferred his services to Mr. Lionel Blanckensee, of Birmingham and London.

SHEFFIELD NOTES



(By Our Own Correspondent.)*

For the present all matters appertaining to trade must be subordinate in interest to the great struggle in the coal trade now going on. We cannot ignore its existence even if we would. Its far reaching effects extend to everyone. The comfortable assurance that, bad as it might be, it would chiefly concern the heavy industries at the east end must be given up. This was the prospective view of the situation largely indulged in before the struggle commenced. We are now realising to our cost how much the lighter industries in the centre of the town depend upon the east end for the materials which they work up. Hence trades which at one time seemed to have the remotest possible connection with the matter in dispute are now suffering from the effects of the strike. The question as to whether the orders on the books are many or few is of comparatively slight interest so long as the capacity to execute them is crippled to the extent it is at present.

One scarcely likes to speculate as to the outcome of all this. A struggle like the present can hardly pass away and leave things as they were. The desirability of coal being removed from its present position of pre-eminence in the manufacturing world seems to be evident. Hence the talk of substitutes—oil, electricity, and so on. For the present, however, although schemes without number are being propounded on every side I cannot hear that anything very practical has been accomplished. Still, as the fight after all seems likely to go on until Christmas, the men of theory will have time to put their ideas into concrete shape. Never before have manufacturers had minds so open to conviction on these matters, and certainly the time at their disposal to make experiments is unlimited.

The death of Mr. William Sissons, of Brincliffe, recalls some interesting associations connected with the silver trade. In connection with his brother, the late Mr. George Sissons, he carried on the works in Eyre-street, where the two brothers did their share in maintaining the reputation of the town for good workmanship. Many years ago Sissons' was one of the firms who believed in saw-piercing, and applied it largely in their manufactures. I remember they brought out a bottle mount which had a great run, although elaborately and expensively saw-pierced. The article, moreover, seemed to have been taken to by the shopkeepers, and despite its expensiveness was turned out by the gross. Mr. Sissons, who was sixty-two years of age, had been out of business for many years.

Any of your London readers who would like to ascertain what we in Sheffield are capable of in the way of art metal-work should visit the Arts and Crafts Exhibition in Regent-street, where some exhibits of Messrs. Longden and Co. are sure to interest them. The Messrs. Longden's is an old-established stove-grate business, but for many years they have cultivated the manufacture of ecclesiastical furnishings, an art for which the two brothers who now carry on the work of the firm have displayed a special aptitude. The connection between the making of stove-grates and church ornaments is not so remote as it appears on the surface, when we remember the highly artistic character assumed long ago by the former trade here. Anyhow, the altar cross and font exhibited at the Arts and Crafts Exhibition will bear comparison with the best ancient work, and fully sustain the reputation of the town as a centre of art-workmanship.

Our new town hall is so far advanced towards completion as to render necessary an immediate decision as to the matter of clock and bells. Tenders were invited from two firms, one of them local and with some amount of experience as to the town clocks, and the other from Leeds. The latter firm secured the suffrages of the committee, chiefly, it is understood, because the mechanism connecting the bells with the working of the clock was included in their estimate. When, however, the matter came to be discussed before the full council the bells were objected to on the score of expense. It was pointed out by the economists that as the bells could only be heard within a limited radius of the town hall it was not worth while spending money upon them. As, however, this objection applies in a much greater degree to a sight of the clock, it must be looked upon as a fine specimen of municipal reasoning. The argument, nevertheless, was deemed sufficiently cogent to carry the day, and the upshot is that we shall have to carry on as best we may with a clock and no bells. There is just a crumb of comfort in the reflection that as the tower is being constructed with the ultimate object of hanging a peal of bells in it, the city fathers may some time or other change their minds and so set the other part of the clock to work.

The silver and electro-plate industry, which this year so far has been exceptionally depressed, begins to show some slight signs of revival. Even the Australian Market displays some encouraging symptoms, thus supporting the conviction entertained by silversmiths that some time or other this will be one of the best outlets for our surplus manufactures. Of course we shall have to wait till the Australians have fully surmounted their present difficulties before the volume of trade is sensibly increased. This, however, is only a matter of time. Meanwhile, the different houses are hopefully working at the new patterns usually got up at this time of the year.

The Baneful Influence of the Press.—We sometimes feel disposed to quarrel with generalisers who speak of "the curses of the modern institution of the Press," yet there can be no denying that, seeing that the pen is mightier than the sword, it yields a powerful weapon for good or evil; and it is, therefore, all the more important that every man placed in the responsible position of influencing the millions should be duly qualified to talk about a subject upon which he enters. An example of the evil done by the ill-informed can be roughly estimated from the following extract from a journal which plumes itself upon the title of *Brighton Society*:—"Ere long all the forms of jewelry to which we are accustomed in Europe will be driven away. Science is busy, and it cannot now be long before she will have discovered the secret of manufacturing a diamond as brilliant and full of fire as any of those which glitter at a Pavilion ball or a gala at the opera. Then, again, diamond mines are cropping up so fast in South Africa that there is every likelihood of the stones first becoming very cheap, and finally degenerating into the merest drug in the market. It is sad to think of the hours of wretchedness in store for many a dame of high degree when she discovers that the financial value of her stars and tiara has vanished like a dream of the morning." Who can tell how many purchasers of jewelry this scare-crow has frightened. Commercial artificial diamonds are as far off to-day as ever; and no discoveries in South Africa could ever make diamonds "the merest drug." If these paper stainers and would-be alarmists would only cultivate their brains, instead of their ears, they would help to develop and elevate mankind, instead of retrogressing towards an asinine species.

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, or necessarily any, of the views of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

Coventry Notes.

Things are by no means as we should like to see them in Coventry; the period of depression from which we are now suffering throughout the country is felt very severely in the city of luxuries. In good times fine silks, satins, jewelry, and watches are in great demand, but they can be so easily dispensed with that they are first to suffer a depression. In all these branches there is a stagnation, which in places amounts to almost distress.

To make the best of the situation, a labor bureau has been organised. Here any unemployed person can enter into a register his name, occupation, where last employed, age, and particulars of family, providing he attends the Cow-lane and Lord-street classes. A large number of situations have thus been found for the unemployed, but as this only applies to some 600 men, of whom only about 5 per cent. appear to be out of work, it does not affect the whole of the trade of the city.

Recently a meeting was held in the Great Meeting school of the unemployed in the watch jewel-hole making. It was stated that many had not been employed for three months and upwards, that the productions of this branch of the trade were largely exported to America, and that the trade depression in that country was the chief cause of the distress here. Mr. F. Lee and Mr. Styles addressed the meeting, and it was decided to start a relief fund, and a committee and officers were elected as follows:—Messrs. Wm. Smith (chairman), F. Golby (treasurer), F. Lee (secretary), and Messrs. T. Bromwich, W. Rice, E. McNeil, J. Evans, T. Gibbs, A. Davis, A. Ball, C. Styles, L. Francis, and Whitehead, committee.

Subsequently a meeting of the employers in the watch jewel trade was held, Mr. Councillor Chadwick in the chair, when it was resolved that a fund should be opened for the relief of distress in the above trade. A good beginning was made by promises of some £30.

It is highly gratifying to notice that the powers that be fully recognise the vital principles which must determine the fate of Coventry in the struggle for existence, and instead of lubricating the sores are struggling with the origin of the disease. For some time proposals for the enlargement of the Technical Institute have been under consideration, and these have now taken concrete form. On the 13th ult., under the presidency of John Rotherham, Esq., the Technical Institute Committee accepted tenders, and set about the thing in absolute earnest. It was further resolved to apply to the Science and Art Department for a grant in aid of the building.

The building contract will be £3,900, of which £3,000 has been obtained from the Spencer Arts Trustees. Some months ago the committee purchased a pieee of land in the rear of the present premises, 48ft. by 38ft. The property on both sides of the archway by which entrance is gained to the Institute from Earl-street belongs to the committee. Several additions have from time to time been made at the rear, including the subscription reading-room, the weavers' shed, chemical laboratory, etc.

At the rear of the laboratory it is proposed to erect two large science class-rooms (29ft. by 27ft., and 25ft. by 26ft.), and engineering shops, each 35ft. by 22ft. Over the class-rooms there will be a good sized lecture hall, 50ft. by 35ft., with retiring rooms and ante-room, and over the engineering shops a gymnasium, 42ft. by 32ft. In the rear of the present cookery kitchen is a piece of land upon which it is proposed to build other workshops for carpentry and plumbing, one of these measuring 15ft. by 24ft., and the other 18ft. by 18ft. The cost of these alterations will probably be between £3,000 and £4,000.

The Institution is a real live one, and is worked along numerous lines for the better qualifying of the next generation of Coventry to hold its own. In connection with the field club there are some useful lectures given and instructive excursions made. At a recent meeting Mr. G. Docwra gave an interesting lecture on Gothic architecture. A while ago members of the jewelry and silversmiths' trade might have considered such a subject of no importance to them, but a knowledge of this subject is absolutely indispensable to the designer, and even to the fully qualified salesman. We often feel amused at the jokes made in comic papers at the expense of the ignorance of Mrs. Gotrich, but we little think how often a salesman commits the same unpardonable blunders when speaking of the various articles that pass through his hands. Nor can anyone fully appreciate any work of art, such as a casket, without he understands something of the various styles of architecture.

On the same evening another paper was given by Mr. Fred. Maidwell, on the Extinct Monsters of Warwickshire, and although of not such direct bearing upon our trade, was nevertheless not without its interest; suggesting to the designer that he need go neither to the monstrosities of Japan nor to his own brains for subjects, nor need he fall back upon the almost solitary fox as an indigenous animal. These extinct monsters which have been rescued with the pick of the geologist are more strange and fascinating than the wildest conception that has ever entered the fertile brain of the designer, and moreover they are real; and, so far as we know, many of them essentially British.

Watchmakers who undertake repairs should get a catalogue of Messrs. Alex. Edwards and Co., of Coventry. It clearly sets forth all the tools and requirements for repairing either English or Swiss watches. It is as well also to note that Messrs. Edwards have facilities for the thorough and effectual repairing of all kinds of watches of every class, to the trade. They also undertake jewelry repairs.

Trade Returns for September.

Imports.—*Clocks.*—The imports under this heading for September were estimated at £33,466, about £5,300 less than September, 1892. The decrease of the first nine months, compared with 1892, now reaches about £19,000. *Watches.* — The imports under this heading for September show a remarkable increase, reaching a total of £71,379 against £44,941 for last year.

Exports.—The plate, plated, and gilt wares exported during September were valued at £26,010, or about £4,000 less than in September, 1892.

The Export Jewelry Trade.—A well-written, although somewhat lengthy, article on the export jewelry trade appears in the *British Trade Journal* of October 1st. The factors in the evolution of the "cheap and nasty" of modern times, and their baneful influences, are well depicted. After reviewing the various markets of the world, it re-sounds the keynote struck by ourselves several years ago. "Almost the only spot on the globe where we can turn for relief in this matter is the South African colonies. These diamond and gold bearing districts seem to have completely recovered from the disasters of a few years ago, and to be on the high road to prosperity and wealth. The orders from here have been, and are likely to continue, satisfactory, and our only desire is that the jewelry-wearing population may speedily increase. It is satisfactory to note too, that, so far, the cheap and nasty mania has not reached there, as nothing but the best in quality and the heaviest in make will please the hardy diamond seekers of Johannesburg and Griqualand West." We sincerely recommend the perusal of this article to all those who are interested in the export trade, as it is evidently written by no mere novice or penny-a-liner, but by one who thoroughly understands the subject with which he deals.

Transatlantic Jottings.

THAT we have recently been passing through a severe crisis no man with an atom of respect for his own veracity would deny. It is a fact which has unpleasantly forced itself upon everyone, from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Lakes to the Gulf. Nor is it at all confined to the jewelry trade; it is universal, and the Finance Committee of the Treasury Department foresee the "probability of a deficit in the Government revenues of 50,000,000dol." As to whether the cloud is lifting or not we cannot feel so sanguine. Reports from many parts bid us be of good cheer; but we must take things as they are and draw our own conclusions.

TURNING to the watch factories, there are now about 1,500 hands at work at the Waltham factory. They further report an increased demand for ladies' watches, so that an additional force may shortly be expected. They recently put on another hundred hands, and have just received one of the largest orders they have ever had for 18-size movements. Charles W. Fogg, one of the directors of the company, and inventor of the safety pinion, died September 6th, having nearly reached fourscore.

THE Elgin Watch Company appear to be turning out more watches *pro rata* with the number of hands they now employ than when the staff was double its present strength.

THE New York Standard Watch Co. started up with about one-fifth of its strength, and has made weekly additions until it has now one-third of its usual force at work.

THE New Haven Clock Co., which employs about 700 hands, has started up with nearly or quite a full complement of hands. Many other companies started up with four days a week. Most of the silver ware factories started up with three days, and of these the Meriden Britannia Co., the Wilcox, the Meriden Silver Co., and others have increased to four days a week, whilst a great many more are running half-time.

UNFORTUNATELY I hear of a great many failures, from the Green-Smith Watch and Diamond Co., with liabilities to the extent of 253,000dol., down to small retail traders with only a thousand or two.

OF the trade changes either effected or projected, report has it that the Ansona Clock Co. is about to absorb the E. Howard Watch and Clock Co. There is also under consideration the amalgamation of the Crescent Watch Case Co. and Bay State Watch Case Co. The United States Optical Co., Detroit, Mich., are increasing their capital from 50,000dol. to 100,000dol.

IN the case of John Dueber, Judge Ingraham has granted leave to take testimony by a commission upon written interrogatories. Talking about law reminds me that the judgment in the late case of the American Watch Case Company against Chas. Stark and Co. has been reversed; the damages originally awarded being increased from 10,900dol. to 19,175dol., Chancellor Boyd, of Toronto, reversing the former verdict, and giving everything in favor of the American Watch Case Company.

THE recent conviction of a woman for substituting a worthless ring in the place of one of diamonds reminds me of another institution we possess in the States, which, so far as I am aware, does not exist in Britain, and that is the "rogues' gallery," in which are hung the portraits of criminals. In this case prosecution was assisted by the thief being hung in the New York Gallery.

I THINK I sent you word some time ago that a committee had been appointed by the American Horological Society to consider the question of trade nomenclature. These gentlemen have now performed their difficult task, and report that all names and definitions have been decided upon. They are not yet published, but as soon as they are I shall be pleased to lay them before your readers. The less confusion we have in nomenclature or units of any sort the more harmony and ease and less misunderstanding will there be.

THE world's masterpiece is not yet closed. Jewelers from the ends of the earth have come to pay tribute to this shrine of human genius, and really, judging from figures which I have in my possession, I believe few trades—and perhaps none—have better appreciated the lessons taught by this stupendous world's-harvest of brains. Many of the awards are now out, and of those of interest to your readers I might mention that the exhibit of your Manufacturing Goldsmiths' and Silversmiths' Co. has been greatly admired by their brethren on this side of the water. Now and then there is a little adverse criticism, prompted either by desert or jealousy, but on the whole the display has been greatly admired, and the jurors have selected their marine chronometers and watches for awards. J. H. Smith and Sons, London, also score with their magnificent display of bells, chimes, and clocks. It is to be deeply regretted that other firms did not exhibit, as I should have dearly liked to have seen a display of the really best British work, say a selection of a dozen of those names you recently published in the Kew and Greenwich reports.

IN the optical line Ross and Co., Bond-street, London, have received the most flattering awards. A critical examination of all exhibits was made purely upon their own merits, with the result that the entire photographic record of construction of the Exhibition is being made with their lenses. Watson and Sons, of Holborn, also take three awards, and Riley Bros., of Bradford, score for lanterns and slides.

THE Esmail Enamels were also appreciated both by the millions of visitors and jurors, the process being acknowledged to be one of the most beautiful and enduring ones that have ever been brought before the public.

IT would probably be too long a list to enumerate the successful American firms. Tiffany and Co. and Geo. F. Kunz come in for special honors, the former taking some fifteen prizes. The Swiss watchmakers come out well, as do the German clockmakers. In trade literature—pearls—Tiffany and Geo. F. Kunz also score. Fish scale jewelry also receives awards. Ezra Kelly and W. F. Nye both score for fish oil for watches and clocks.

LASTLY, I may say, I hope your readers see our trade journals, and if so they have, I am sure, noticed the very friendly way in which British, and indeed all trade exhibits have been received, their qualities appreciated and merits emphasised. Not once have I seen anything that could be called mean trade jealousy or unfair criticism; and I am quite certain that those who have exhibited will receive a power of good which will not be the lot of those who stood aloof. In all the early history of the world it was customary to send representatives of various countries to fight, murder, and slaughter. This old spirit, all must admit, is fast dying out, and we are now fully into the age of conferences: the meeting of all parties to recognise each other's claims.

Trade Union First Annual Meeting.—On the evening of the 14th ult. the Watch, Clock, Casemakers', and Brassworkers' Union had the first annual meeting at the Bargen's Restaurant, City. There was a good attendance, considering the society has only been in existence twelve months.

Tickets and Ticket Writing.

By the Editor.

(*Continued from page 225.*)

The Letter O.—If our rectangle were a square, the letter O would be simply a circle, and by placing one leg of the compass in the centre, the outside line of the letter could be struck in one sweep. Its symmetry, however, is not affected by this, and the dividing up of our rectangle into four equal parts similarly divides the letter. To obtain this character mathematically true place one leg of the compass in the centre of the top line, and open the instrument until the other leg reaches the edge of the rectangle, then swing it round till it reaches the vertical line, upon which mark off a point, and from this strike a half circle in the upper half; repeat the operation from the lower half of the letter as shown in Fig. 37. Now connect the extreme sides of the top and bottom halves, by a graceful curve with a slight outward bend, and thus obliterate the hollow formed by the two curves not coinciding; this completes the outside outline of the letter, as shown in Fig. 38. Next mark off upon the centre line the width of a down stroke, from both sides of the rectangle, and draw a line through it on both sides parallel to the sides of the latter, till it meets the outside line. Now obliterate the union of the inner and outer lines by a modifying curve, as shown in Fig. 39, and the letter is complete.

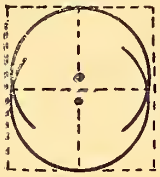


Fig. 37.

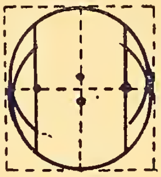


Fig. 38.

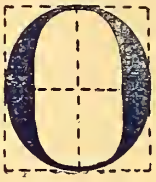


Fig. 39.

The Letter P.—This letter is formed in a very similar manner to B and D, being quite like B with its lower right member removed, and the foot of the down stroke furnished with a serif, with the usual curve on both sides. At the top of the letter, it will be seen, the line which commences the curved member is made by the usual curve to form a serif on the outside, but it is not so modified on the inside. To obtain a well-formed letter divide the top right line in the centre by a dot, and from this towards the left dot off the thickness of a down stroke, as in Fig. 40. Continue the top line commenced at the serif in a quite straight direction till it is quite through the first quaternion, and, say, a quarter of the way through the next; then spring a curve to a corresponding point on the median line, passing through the outside dot, carrying it quite straight along the middle line till it reaches the down stroke. Spring a second curve slightly inside of the outer, passing through the second or left-hand dot, which completes the letter, as shown in Fig. 41.

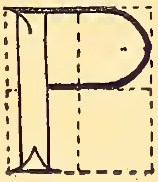


Fig. 40.

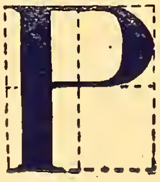


Fig. 41.

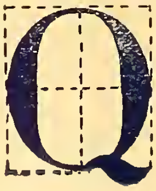


Fig. 42.

The Letter Q.—As this letter is exactly similar in form to the letter O, differing simply in the addition of a tail, little need be said about it. Originally the tail was a straight down stroke through the centre of the letter, projecting to nearly the length of the diameter of the circle below. Sometimes now it is placed in a more central position than shown in Fig. 42; but we think the best position is that shown above. The proportions are also considered consistent with a legible and symmetrical letter.

(*To be continued.*)

The New Block of the Clock and Watchmakers' Asylum.

Readers will be pleased to hear that the 21st ult. saw the opening of the new block to the above asylum, built by the widow of the late Mr. Spring, in perpetuation of his memory; Mr. Spring being for many years an active member of the Asylum Committee. The same day also saw the opening of a second house built by the Goldsmiths. The important ceremony was performed by a most fit and proper person, the Master of the Clockmakers' Company, the Rev. H. L. Nelthropp, M.A., F.S.A., who is so well known as one of Britain's amateur clockmakers' trio. Probably no other country can boast of three such skilful amateur horologists as we can, in the persons of Lord Grimthorpe and the Revs. Nelthropp and Rigg. Mrs. Spring was also present, and gave a cheque for £50 to endow the house for the first year. The Clockmakers endow the other house.

The day was fine and the company large, amongst whom were the following gentlemen with their ladies: Mr. Daniel Clark, Deputy Master of the Company; Mr. E. J. Thompson, renter warden; Mr. H. C. Overall (clerk), Mr. R. H. Halford (chairman of the Asylum Committee), Mr. Philip Woodman (treasurer), the Hon. Massey-Mainwaring, the Rev. J. H. Rose, M.A., Mr. J. J. Stockall, M.L.S.B., Messrs. John Woodman, J. A. Clemence, R. W. Cole (secretary of the Building Committee), R. C. Cole, T. W. Vine, Louis Donne, Dr. Schmidt, R. Hankin, W. Chapman, H. R. Gaydon, R. Griggs, Haswell, W. Barnsdale, C. E. Atkins, Thomas Baxter, S. A. Brooks, W. R. Corke, J. A. Lund, J. Usher, Spencer, and others.

Silver keys were presented by Messrs. Halford and Cole to the Master and Mrs. Spring.

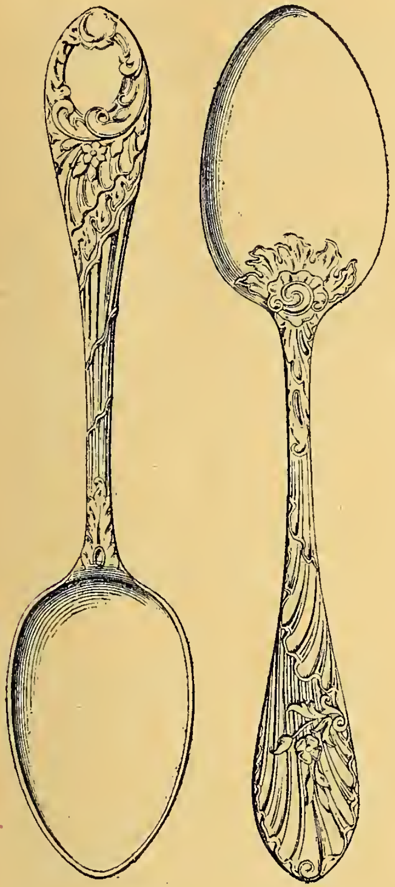
An excellent lunch was served, and a number of sensible speeches made and toasts drunk.

Mr. Thomas Baxter thanked the Clockmakers' Company for their great assistance during the last quarter of a century, and also paid a high tribute to the Master for the help he had given, not only to the sciences of horology and astronomy, but to the charities of the trade. The Rev. J. H. Rose had shown the Clerkenwellers the truth of a leaflet that was circulated about some twenty years ago, that in their vicar they had "got an old rose" that will ever be found in flower. He forgot the stereotype, but the vicar and others would probably remember it, and the trade all knew the interest he had taken in matters pertaining to their welfare. Mr. P. Woodman (who, of course, was received with prolonged applause) pointed out that they had that day inaugurated a long-felt want at that asylum in opening the widows' houses. It was twenty-seven years ago since they did a similar act. They had added men's houses; but had not been able to provide one for the widows. If a male inmate died, his widow got three months' notice to quit, and then had to go about seeking re-election. This was very hard upon the poor widow. They were much indebted to a past chairman of the committee, Mr. Thomas Baxter—(hear, hear)—for one of the houses; for at the festival at the Goldsmiths' Hall during the mayoralty of Mr. Alderman Savory, a sum of £400 was gathered and invested, and now a house had been built, and the Clockmakers' Company had endowed it. (Applause.) The late Mr. Johnson, of Threadneedle-street, had left a legacy of £300 to the institution; another £200 had been collected from the City Companies; and now another £100 was required to give all that was necessary for another house. The husband of the noble lady who had given them £312 to build a house and £50 for endowment was his (the speaker's) deputy chairman for three years, and he had great reverence for his memory.

A Useful Catalogue.—Messrs. Barnett H. Abrahams, 128, Houndsditch, are sending out a useful catalogue of their productions, which is well got up and illustrated, and its descriptions include a great variety of articles suitable for general mixed trades. Special attention is called to their "Star Silver," a metal which the firm guarantee to wear white throughout and specify it to keep its color. The volume also includes jewelry of various descriptions, watches, clocks, electro-plate, silver goods, musical boxes, and opera glasses. The catalogue is supplied only to the *bona fide* trade.

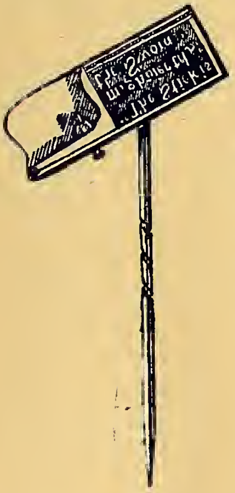
Things New or Noteworthy

We have often called attention to the comparative dearth of patterns in spoons and forks; half-a-dozen patterns for many years sufficed the whole of the trade. Yet fewer things offer a greater field for variation. It is true lately, owing to the souvenir craze, a greater number of patterns have been produced, but they are not such as are likely to become household favorites. We give here a front and back view of a spoon and fork pattern lately brought out by the celebrated spoon and fork house, Messrs. John Round and Son, Limited, of Sheffield. We cannot say we are satisfied with the appearance of it when thus reduced, as, when seen in the real article, especially the tables, it is one of the most imposing artistic objects that have appeared in that line of things, and we are sure has a great future before it.



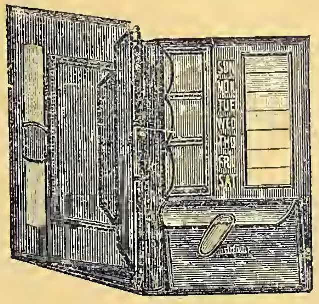
A Novel Pin.

Our immortal bard long ago realised that "the pen is mightier than the sword," a fact which none but those of the most ultra-military predilections would question. Now, however, we have Mr. Samuel Lowen, secretary of the London Society of Goldsmiths and Jewelers, coming forward and out-Shakespearing Shakespeare, with the idea that "the *stick* is mightier than the sword," an assertion with which most of us might at first sight be disposed to disagree. But when we learn the stick is that of the compositor, the indispensable *aide-de-camp* of the pen, we have to admit he is quite right. The illustration shows one of these pins, consisting of a compositor's stick in which is set in type, in compositor's fashion, the words, "The stick is mightier than the sword." The modelling is most excellent, the stick being in colored gold and the type oxydised, with white faced letters. As the stick is adjustable, any motto, words, or legend might be substituted. It is a pity this pin was not introduced at the recent Journalists' Conference, as it would have been viewed with favor by the pressmen.



New Memo Books.

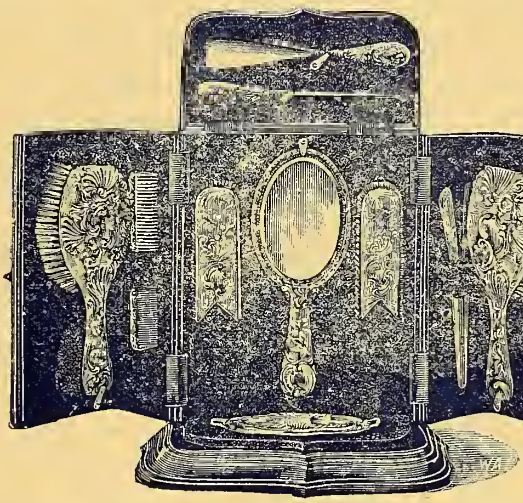
The illustration is one of the very many useful designs of memo pocket books, brought out by Messrs. Wich and Co., which will be seen to play the part of a perpetual diary.



Another pattern is so arranged as to form a perpetual calendar, so that by shifting a slip monthly the day of the month is shown legibly in a very small space.

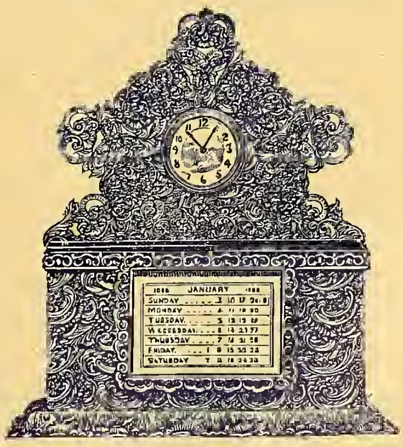
Cabinet Case of Toilet Requisites.

One of the neatest, most compact, and useful cases of toilet requisites is shown in the above illustration. Its nature is so obvious that it does not require a word of description. It is one of the productions of Messrs. King and Son, Charterhouse-street, who have made this kind of thing a speciality.



A New Stationery Case.

Another production of the same firm, a stationery case of pierced E.P., carrying a calendar in front, while in the back is a timepiece. It is an imposing looking article, and will doubtless find a ready sale.



Distribution of Prizes at Birmingham Technical Schools.

On the evening of the 25th ult. the prizes gained by the students of the above institution were distributed by the Mayor, a distinguished company being present. Mr. J. W. Tonks, presiding, referred to the fact that they were trying as a trade to solve the problem of technical education which was now engrossing so much attention in all parts of the country. And they were solving the problem very much on the principle of self-help. The Jewelers' Association had done a great deal of the work—they had fortunately been favored with some large annual subventions from the Assay Office Guardians—and when they made up their minds to commence the effort the Municipal School of Art met them very generously by placing a school in the very midst of the jewelers' district, and also granted the use of rooms in which they could conduct the practical part of their work. Their operations had now extended over some three years, and he was glad to say that the prizes on the present occasion were larger in number and in value than they had previously been. He thought those who had seen the specimens of the students' work displayed in the hall would agree, too, that the prizes had been more fully earned than on any previous occasion. It would be noticed that the prize list contained no free scholarships, and that was because all the students were free scholars. Young people of both sexes, if they were engaged in the jewelry trade, had an opportunity of using the schools freely. That was a matter in which he thought they might claim to be unique at present. Mr. Tonks further explained that the prizes gained by the students in the art department were not included in the distribution that evening, but it was hoped in future arrangements would be made to bring that about, and in conclusion he expressed himself conscious of the importance of the art schools as an adjunct to the technical school. The successes of the art students had this year been unique, the results in modelling being particularly gratifying. The address was frequently broken by loud applause.

The Mayor also made a capital speech in which he eulogised the work of the Association, and pointed out the importance of technical education. In the autumn term of 1891 there were 934 attendances, in 1892 they increased to 1,267. In the winter term of 1893 they showed a further increase to 1,930.

The following is the prize list:—

Jewelers' Association Prizes:—£3 for the best session's work in any or all classes, Arthur Hall; £2 second prize, A. J. Dun; £1 third prize, Frank Parker; £1 5s. for the best cross, executed by student to design produced by him in competition for prize offered by Municipal School of Art. In this competition the committee did not think the work in any case to be of good enough quality to award the full prize, and the only award they did make was a prize of ten shillings to Robert Degenetais. £1 5s. for the best watch back, executed by student to design produced by him in competition for prize offered by Municipal School of Art, Frank Parker; 15s. for the second best watch back, Arthur Hall. £1 5s. extra prize, for best specimen of carving and piercing on circular-domed metal, two and a-half inch diameter, Victor Bennett.

Mr. A. Fridlander's Prizes:—£2 for the best constructed front of casket, to student's own design, A. J. Dew; £1 2nd prize, John Ravenall; 10s. 3rd prize, A. Heath; extra prize 10s., William T. Harrison. £1 for the best chased and finished casting of a bird, from student's own model in clay, 1st (and only) prize of 30s., W. Oakley; the committee decided to give no 2nd prize, Oakley's work being immeasurably superior to his rivals. £5 attendance prize, for time spent in Technical School: George Arnott, attended 129 times, £1; A. J. Dew, 125, 15s.; W. T. Harrison, 125, 15s.; W. F. Condry, 116, 10s.; F. Parker, 113, 10s.; A. Heath, 100, 7s. 6d.; H. F. Horton, 96, 7s. 6d.; G. R. Degentais, 94, 7s. 6d.; A. Hall, 89, 7s. 6d.

Mr. Henry Davis's Prizes:—10s. 6d., 2nd prize, for the best cloak clasp in repousse, to student's own design, size not to exceed three inches in any dimension, Robert Degenetais. £1 1s. for the best engraving on a silver goblet, to student's own design, size and section will be given in the school, W. J. Condry; 10s. 6d., 2nd prize, Harry Turnpenny; 10s. 6d., 2nd prize, for the best enamelled domed brooch, suitable for mourning, of an antique oval shape, to student's own design, length not to exceed two inches, George Shaw; 10s. 6d. for repousse scarf pin head, of any shape, not exceeding one inch in any dimension, to student's own design, Marshall Fisher. Extra prize of 5s. given by the committee, A. J. Dew.

Mr. B. J. Round's Prizes:—£1 11s. 6d. for the best enamel painting of a pansy, arranged by the master, in a concave, not exceeding two inches in diameter, equally between Walter Wheeler, E. R. Wright, and Frank Parker; 10s. 6d. for the best specimen of engraving, from selected example, W. J. Condry.

Operative Jewelers' Trade Society Prizes:—£1 1s. for the best bracelet decorated in Etruscan style, to selected sample, George Shaw; 10s. 6d. for the best specimen of mounted work, to selected example, George Shaw; 10s. 6d. for the best specimen of repousse work, to selected example, A. J. Dew.

REVIEWS.

Cements, Pastes, Glues, and Gums. Compiled by H. C. Standage. Can be had at the office of the Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith, price 2s. 6d. In this excellent volume 154 pages are devoted to the above indispensable articles. The recipes and formulæ have been apparently collected with the greatest care by a practical chemist, who has given a large amount of time to the subject. He has also put many of them to actual use, and tested them thoroughly. In his preface he deprecates the abominable system unfortunately so much in use in trade journals, of "lifting" a recipe from a rival journal, the editor not being able to inquire into its merits. We have gone through many of the recipes given, and also notice numbers of our old friends; while here and there we recognise one which we thought was our own, and were it not that knowledge is a commonwealth we should object to our secrets being made public. We highly recommend this volume to every reader, and guarantee that it will be a revelation to him.

Hall Marks, Illustrated, 1560 to 1915. A complete list of the hall marks and date letters on gold and silver plate and jewelry, and a list of the great diamonds of the world. Revised by Edwin W. Streeter, F.R.G.S. By William Redman. Can be had at the office of the Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith, paper covers, 6d.; cloth 1s. This little volume contains the most information about hall marks and hall-marking of anything yet published at the price. The author has compiled from first-class authorities such as Chaffers and Crisp, and others, a half-dozen plates of English and foreign marks in more than twice as many pages of type-set examples, and some useful information about hall-marking. We, however, feel it a great pity he did not stop at this. Stereotyped blocks are easily transferred from one book to another, and the process ought to result in few mistakes. But the author is more ambitious than this, and in the preface he says he has tried to say *everything needful.* With his remarks upon the value of the hall mark we hope all will agree, we do—thoroughly. But as soon as our author begins to treat us to his own original matter we are nonplussed, as we never saw such a collection of absurdities and errors in all our experience. We are extremely sorry to have to use such strong language, but the errors are of such a nature very often as to lead to serious results, and for the moment we must try and forget our great respect for Mr. Redman, and speak in the interest of the trade and right. We will not stop to point out the wrong use of scientific terms, nor the introduction of perfectly irrelevant matter. We will take as an example the second paragraph on "gold":—"The specific gravity of gold is nineteen and a quarter times *heavier* than water. A *nugget* of pure gold 6in. square will weigh a fraction over 150⅜lb. Same size in silver and copper in equal parts would weigh one quarter that of gold." And now we are on the question of specific gravity we might as well make a quotation from three paragraphs on:—"In every quarter of the globe gold has been found in abundance. In the time of David and Solomon, gold was as plentiful and its properties as well known, if not better, than the present day. Gold and silver are mentioned 300 times in the Bible, and in those days many kind of ornaments and useful articles were made of pure gold, which is a beautiful yellow color. A cubic foot of gold weighs more than half a ton, or 1,203·89 lb. There is only one metal that is of greater density than gold, namely platinum, the specific gravity of which is 20·85." Now for the unpleasant task of criticism.

Specific gravity is a *force*, therefore it can be "greater" or "less," but not "heavier." As the physical condition of any metal greatly influences its specific gravity, it should be stated whether the gold is cast, rolled, or hammered. A "nugget" of gold six inches square could be of any weight from a pennyweight or two upwards: just as a piece of No. 6 string could be of any length. Possibly it is a cubic ingot that is meant. An alloy of half copper and half silver, the same size as the gold, instead of only weighing one quarter would weigh rather more than one half. As to the statement that gold was as plentiful in the days of David and Solomon as the present day, with the hundreds of millions of ounces that Australia and America have yielded, supplies which were assuredly unknown in the days of this petty kingdom (to say nothing about South Africa, which, had it been known, could not have been worked), is ridiculous beyond measure. As to the properties of gold being as well or better known, the assertion is an outrage upon modern chemistry and upon common-sense; nor does it at all accord with the remarks of Mr. Lowe, p. 7, where he points out that with the old method of testing—the touch needle—a difference of two or three carats could not be detected! What should we think of Chandler Roberts-Austin issuing nineteen carat sovereigns!! By the next sentence the author evidently thinks gold is always the same hue! Then once more we are treated to some calculations, but here he is more explicit; but unfortunately they hardly agree with those given above, assuming that a cube is spoken of in the first instance. Then comes the assertion that only one other metal is heavier than gold, namely, platinum (the specific gravity of which may be much greater or less than quoted, according to its condition). This is, of course, also wrong! Osmium and iridium both are much heavier.

But we cannot go through the book sentence for sentence, and would now stop were it not that we should like to know to what extent Mr. Streeter is responsible for the revision of the chapter on the great diamonds of the world. Certainly they are not made to tally with *The Great Diamonds of the World*, nor with a "corrected" list, which was formerly, and possibly is now, in Mr. Streeter's possession. This is not the first time we have seen a list claimed to be "revised" by Mr. Streeter which has abounded in inaccuracies and wrong and misleading statements. Turning to the illustrations of diamonds given, we find the following. No. 1 is given as the Koh-i-nur, but it is doubtless a bad reproduction of Tavernier's "Great Mogul"; certainly it is not the Queen's gem at all. No. 2 is given as the Pitt. It is a decidedly elongated oval, and therefore altogether dissimilar from the Pitt, in fact it does not represent any of the famous diamonds! No. 2 is favored with two figures, and purports to represent the Sancy. What the first diagram is intended to mean will for ever remain a mystery; but the second is the upper view of a rose, which neither accords with the Sancy nor any other historic gem! Our advice to the editor is, before sending out the work, to expunge everything except that relating to actual hall marks and hall-marking, as all the former, whether criticised or not, renders absolutely valueless and misleading a compilation which might have been made a handy book of reference.

A Hero of the Last Century.—Ezra Kelley, whose name is so closely associated with the clock and watch oils we have been using all our lives, as did many of our fathers, recently celebrated his ninety-sixth birthday, and, despite his age, he is in comparatively good health. In addition to his celebrated clock oils, which have won for him such notoriety, he is a skilful clockmaker, and only a few years ago made a clock, which, for style and finish, would put to shame many of the recognised finest productions of the day. The veteran horologer has seen a good bit of the world, moving about a great deal when he was young, and in later years he has made five journeys across the Atlantic. He is probably one of the most respected men in his State, and has always been a very prominent hard-working, good-living man. He was always a warm supporter of the Anti-slavery movement, and a zealous worker amongst the Quakers and Methodists. We hope to record his centenary, when we shall have a lot more to say about him.

Two New Caskets for Wakefield.—Messrs. Vaughton, Gothic Works, Birmingham, have just designed and executed for Mr. F. B. Michell, jeweler, of Wakefield, two silver-gilt and ebony caskets which are to contain the Freedom of the City of Wakefield, and addresses to Thomas Kemp Sanderson, Esq., and William Hartley Lee, Esq. The size of the caskets, which are of similar shape and design, is 12in. by 7½in. each, and they are lined inside with light blue satin. The lids are of solid silver-gilt, and are finely engraved and carved, and support the arms of the city of Wakefield on the raised centre part. The sides of the caskets are of ebony, mounted with pierced and carved work in silver gilt, and a fine effect is produced by the contrast of the ebony and gold. In the middle part of the front of the casket is a view of the Wakefield Town Hall, finely painted in enamel, and round the ebony base runs a pierced and carved moulding. Under the view of the Town Hall is the embossed crest of the recipient, on either side of which is the presentation inscription. They are pieces of work which well represent the firm from which they originate.

Modern Watch-making.

AS EXEMPLIFIED AT THE PRESCOT FACTORY.

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(A paper read before the British Association Meeting, Nottingham, September, 1893.)
(*Concluded.*)

I must pass over the frame, barrel, balance, jeweling, escapement, flat steel, and motioning departments, by saying that the same system is in vogue—namely, to make special machines for each set of operations required. It would tax your patience to enumerate the different forms of machinery we use in each department, and to describe them technically would be an impossibility in the time at our disposal; therefore I can only attempt to describe our latest capstan-head lathe, which is in use generally throughout the factory, and which, I think, might be of use to many other mechanics besides watchmakers. On many of the parts of a watch it is requisite to make many concentric cuts; to do these cuts separately was almost impracticable on account of the difficulty and time lost in repeatedly rechucking. We therefore had to design a rest with a series of tools, each of which when brought into position could be controlled by stops, so as to be used by unskilled labor, and yet produce accurate work. The ordinary turret lathe, as used by mechanics, was unsuitable, as we require not only to turn down into the work, but to slide over the surface and make undercuts as well. It was requisite to have longitudinal and transverse motions to each tool. This introduced a difficulty in the arrangement of stops. In our first design we adopted loose cutter boxes, which enabled us to employ stops to the more important cutters, while the less important ones were roughly adjusted to the same stops by slackening the binding screws of the particular tool box, and sliding it in the direction required. Of course, this was troublesome and insufficiently accurate for finished work, and left much to be desired. Again, we found, however well the central bearing on which the turret revolved, it had more or less shake because of the freedom necessary to allow it to revolve. The spring pawl was also another source of error, as chips falling from the work got into the slots, hence the cutters got proportionately displaced. We therefore had to invent a rest on which each cutter should have a micrometer adjustment, both longitudinally and transversely, and each of which must be entirely independent of the others. Further, each cutter when brought to the work must fall into a rigid position and be quite unaffected by the shake on the bearing as well as by the chips it makes.

Of course, ease of manipulation and speed in operating were a *sine qua non.* The drawings and lathes are here and will show you how we arrived at a satisfactory result. The peculiarity of the design is in the form of the capstan. You will note that a T slot runs round the top of the capstan in which slide freely the tool posts with adjustable cradles. In use these tool posts are secured in an approximately correct position, say, within one tenth of an inch. You will also see that the revolution of the capstan is affected by a worm and wheel let into the top slide, the worm being actuated by a round band from the countershaft. When the rest is in the band slips on the warm pulley, thus exerting a continuous pressure on the capstan and holding it rigidly against a pawl. This pawl is secured to the front end of a shaft running through the top slide, and arrests the revolution of the capstan by the springing into the path of a series of screws set tangentially into the capstan. By advancing or withdrawing these screws the tool takes a position to correspond. These screws being cut to a known pitch, the setting of the cutters can be rapidly done, and thus secure the correct diameter of the work. You will also note that by having placed the pawl on the bottom slide of the capstan and directly under the cutter in operation the bad effect of shake on the bearing of the capstan is reduced to a minimum. In fact, no error is perceptible in practice. In order to speedily revolve the capstan from cutter to cutter, on the outside of the pawl shaft is secured an arm, which engages with a corresponding arm on the leading screw. This contact occurs when the tool is withdrawn and depresses the pawl, thus allowing the capstan to revolve automatically without the operator removing his hands from the handles. To arrange stops for the thickness was more difficult, as they could not be placed in front because of the falling chips and the difficulty of getting at them for adjustment. We therefore placed them at the back, away from the work. It was also essential to have them in the centre of the slide, as any cross winding of the slide is injurious and even fatal in fine machinery. Again, the motion of the bottom slide introduced another factor which had to be reckoned with, and for these reasons it was impossible to adopt the methods known to us, which were palpably insufficient for our requirements. We finally employed the following method: On the bottom side of the capstan is turned a groove of square section into which project from the outside of the capstan a series of screws. Into the top of the slide and running underneath the capstan is fitted a sliding piece, in the end of which is a projection which enters the groove on the bottom of the capstan. The other end of the sliding piece is slotted and fits over a stationary lug on the rest. This allows a certain amount of motion to the sliding piece. The fronts of the screws which project into the groove butt against the sliding piece when the cutter is in position, thus giving by the motion of the screws a micrometer adjustment for the thickness each cutter is required to turn. The lathe head is constructed with three spindles, one inside the other, and which take the place of an ordinary lathe mandril. The object of this is to provide a quick, easily worked, and accurate method of chucking the work to be turned.

For many years we have used in the watch trade a hollow spindle lathe with a cone mouth in the front of the mandril, into which we fit spring chucks made the same taper as the cone and drawn into it by a draw spindle and hand-wheel from the back. This grips the work truly, but the defect of this arrangement is that the chucks and work advance or recede into the spindle according to the diameter of the article gripped. Further, having to screw and unscrew the hand-wheel one or two thousand times a day, much time was lost in this alone. For many operations the varying position of the work is not of moment, but in others, such as, for instance, a pinion or balance staff, which has to be turned and pointed and then reversed and the other end turned and pointed, this arrangement was defective. The variation in diameter of the best drawn wire is sufficient to cause a difference of length fatal to subsequent operations which are made from the points turned in this lathe. To meet these difficulties we invented the following arrangements: The outside or main-spindle has double cone bearings both front and back, the back cone being loose to take up wear. The mandril has a hole through it which is ground quite true and into which is fitted the push spindle which secures the chuck, and which is quite independent of any motion of the push spindle. On the outside of the main spindle slides freely the spring disc, which is connected to the push spindle by two keys passing through slots in the main spindle. Enclosed in the spring disc are six strong spiral springs of square section, which force the push spindle on to the chuck. A friction cone also slides on the outside of the main spindle, and has a spring which keeps it in contact with a corresponding cone in the pulley. A series of levers attached to a foot treadle provide the means by which the whole is actuated. On the treadle being depressed the friction cone is taken out of action, thus stopping the lathe. The continued movement of the treadle carries the friction cone against the spring disc, thus withdrawing the push spindle from the chuck and releasing the work. Therefore one motion of the treadle stops the lathe, and releases the chuck, which, being fixed to the rigid end of the main spindle, has no motion, and keeps the work of accurate dimension, although there may be a variation in the diameters of the work put into the chuck. The improvements we have effected in the capstan rest, and which I am afraid I have only imperfectly described, have elevated it from a roughing-out machine to a most accurate finishing tool, and one which can easily be set and produce work at a very small cost.

Concurrently with the development of machinery for making the parts of watches, there are other details which require to be pursued, as, for example, in the method of putting the characters on enamel dials. Photography is employed by some makers, but fails yet to give the clear black and sharp outline required. The system of transferring the paint from steel or copper plates by the collodion process is also in vogue, but up to the present time, although the results are passable for cheap watches, for the best dials hand-painting is still adhered to.

With regard to case-making, for which our company has just started to build machinery, I have little to say, except that the mechanical effort is not exacting, but the all-powerful demand of public taste is fully *en evidence* on this item of watchmaking. From the man who requires only a good sound box to preserve his watch from dust and dirt, to the artistic lady who demands a case that shall please her individual taste, we are, I regret to say, sorely perplexed. Geometrical embellishments have been resorted to to satiety, elaborate engravings of flower patterns and monograms have come to be almost obnoxious to elegant taste. Indeed, the present buyers cry out, "In the poverty of your resources in art, let it alone; I will have it plain." I am afraid that the lack of artistic taste is more easily seen than overcome. Although watch cases have been long looked upon as articles on which some sort of embellishments should be displayed, I am afraid the want is not yet satisfied. I am also further inclined to believe that the modern method of producing patterns on cases by first engraving the tools, and afterwards squeezing under hydraulic pressure, is antagonistic to the full and free development of the engraver's art, as many thousands must be made from the same die in order to make it remunerative.

The elaboration of the different departments of a watch factory finds its culminating point in the assembly room, where all the parts come together for final erection. It is in this department that the whole system of interchangeability of the parts can be judged. If gauging and examination have been perfect, then the putting up of watches is merely a routine job, and good watches must result.

I will not tax your patience longer, except to say that in the twenty minutes allowed me I fear that I have not given you all the information you may have expected, and although I have done my best to give you some idea of modern watchmaking, I know I have only touched the very edges of the subject, and beg therefore to thank you for having listened so patiently.

New Tower Clock for Wangford, Suffolk.—A large chiming clock has just been erected in the church at Wangford, Suffolk, by John Smith and Sons, Derby, and was started with a ceremony by the Bishop of Norwich on the 4th ult. It is fitted with all the latest improvements, and constructed generally to the designs of Lord Grimthorpe. Messrs. Smith are also making a large clock for the London School Board Offices, Victoria Embankment.

In and Out of the Courts.

McShane let off with Eighteen Months' Hard Labor.

IT will doubtless surprise many to hear that justice has been considered done by passing a sentence of eighteen months' hard labor on Charles McShane, for robbing his employer, A. H. Paton, Brewer-street, Golden-square, of some £4,000 worth of jewelry, and further victimising pawnbrokers by illegally pawning the proceeds of his robberies with them. Why such men as these should be recommended to mercy by a prosecution is a little difficult to understand. Mr. Commissioner Kerr very properly pointed out that it had been urged that prisoner had a wife and family, a plea continually put forward, but which to his mind only aggravated the offence. Moreover, the prisoner had stolen some £300 worth of jewelry a week, but it was impossible to urge that the necessities of a family, however large, required a weekly outlay of that amount. The necessities of a family, however great, did not justify a man in robbing his employer. In the face of this, however, the sentence of eighteen months' hard labor and the restitution of the whole of the property was passed. When a starving jobber is tempted to raise a few shillings upon a watch entrusted to him to repair, with the full intention of redeeming it again, he sometimes gets one-third this amount of punishment. Sentences like these tempt petty pilferers to become wholesale thieves!

Wholesale "Job" Pawning.

THE Tunbridge Wells police recently arrested a watchmaker, named George Ware, of Camden-road, Tunbridge Wells; and on searching his house, found no less than twenty-seven pawn tickets relating to watches and other articles he had obtained to repair. Several of the cases were gone into; witnesses were called who identified their property, entrusted to the prisoner to repair, amongst the pawned articles. According to the evidence of the pawnbrokers, prisoner's wife had assisted him in his pawning transactions. Ware was committed for trial.

Capture of a Shop-lifter.

RECENTLY a man entered the shop of W. Lester and Sons, Grey-street, Newcastle, and asked to see several articles of jewelry, ultimately selecting some £40 worth. He then left, ostensibly to get a cheque changed; but the assistant was rather suspicious of his man, and sent a lad to follow him. He was seen to enter a pawnbroker's, and the boy returned to "report progress." By this time the assistant had discovered the theft of a gold albert, and therefore quickly hied to Uncle's. He found that the albert had just been pledged, and that the thief had departed with the money, but not so far as to be lost. The police soon had him back to the shop, and although he succeeded in bolting, he was ultimately brought to justice and sentenced to six months' hard labor.

An Unsuccessful "Plunger."

ON the morning of the 5th ult. a well-dressed man named Thomas Patrick Healy entered the shop of D. W. Hislop, jeweler, 3, Argyle Arcade, Glasgow, and requested to be shown some rings from the window. A case of nine was immediately produced and placed upon the counter, but in much less time he snatched them up and made off with them at express speed, with the man of diamonds behind him. In a short distance he entered a boot shop with the object of hiding, but this only gave the jeweler the opportunity of obtaining the assistance of the police. Healy, however, protested to the police that he had not got the case, but when searched at the police office it was found on him. Three of the rings had been lost in the flight, but were subsequently found. The nine rings were valued at over £200.

A Case for a Second Solomon.

EARLY in June last the wife of Alderman Keighley, in company with her daughter and one Edward Stainforth Cutler, paid a visit to Mrs. Dickinson, jeweler, Burnley, and made sundry purchases. Subsequently the gentleman paid a visit by himself, and informed the vendor of baubles that he was engaged to the young lady whom he had accompanied on the previous occasion, a statement natural enough to command belief, and that he wished to buy her a very nice diamond half hoop at about £50. It was agreed that some should be got for him next day. On the evening of the same day he was seen by a lady assistant with a son of the Alderman, looking into the window at the rings he had seen in the morning, and upon seeing the assistant he raised his hat to her and pointed to the rings. All of which circumstantial evidence strengthened the case and led the jeweler to expect a good customer. Next morning before the arrival of the rings he put in appearance again, and stated that they were all going to Sawley at once, and would like to have two of the rings from the window, valued at £44 10s. Instead of going to seal the engagement at Sawley we next find him paying a visit to a Knight of the Golden Balls at Blackburn, and instead of placing the ring upon the finger of the fair maiden, it is left as a security for a loan of £7 10s., a fate subsequently awaiting the other ring at a rather higher figure at Preston. The young gentleman now awaits his trial, as the young lady gave evidence to the effect that although she had known the former for about a fortnight before he obtained the rings she was not engaged to him; hence the charge of "obtaining under false pretences."

Upon further inquiries we find the same young gentleman was recently fined £10 or six weeks' imprisonment for stealing a gold pin of the value of 35s. from a Scarborough jeweler. During his incarceration in Scarborough cells he tried to commit suicide. He is reported to be of a good York family, but has lately been "doing" jewelers all over the country.

An Unsuccessful "Grab Thief."

JOHN GRAHAM, a grocer's assistant, recently paid a visit to the shop of Charles Hilliard, 260, Pentonville-road, London, and asked to be shown some watches; he then made off with one valued at £2 2s. After a smart chase the watchmaker caught him and gave him into custody. He now awaits his trial.

A Shop-lifting Miner.

JOHN CHETWYND, a Baddesley miner, recently visited the shop of William Pickering, jeweler, of Atherstone, and after declaring that nothing he saw suited him left the shop. It was then discovered that an albert he had looked at could not be found. Chetwynd afterwards offered to sell the chain to Mr. Dingley, who communicated with the police, which led to Chetwynd being rewarded with a fine of £2 or a month's imprisonment.

A Judge Settles a Tally Dispute.

JOSEPH JONES, of Dock-lane, Dudley, not feeling satisfied with his silver albert, entered into negotiations with Lewis Tupman, of Birmingham, and having selected a gold albert gave the latter his heavy silver article and five shillings, with a promise to pay at the rate of £5 for the yellow metal article. After having got possession of the latter the Dudley man became so dissatisfied with the nature of his bargain that he refused to pay any more; hence the action of the tallyman to recover the full amount. The judge, however, ordered the return of the silver chain to the defendant, the latter to deposit the gold chain at the court, to be handed over to the plaintiff.

The Burglary Season is Upon Us.

BETWEEN midnight of the 10th ult. and six o'clock the next morning, a clever entrance was effected through the French window at the back of the premises of H. Davies, jeweler, High-street, West Bromwich. Passing into the shop the thieves took possession of all the valuables to be found, including nine gold and thirty silver watches, and a number of diamond and other rings to the extent of over £200. Another burglary was effected by the same crew on the same evening at the house of a private gentleman, where they left sundry things behind them, but unfortunately not sufficient to lead to their apprehension.

Between Saturday, the 7th, and Monday, the 9th, a robbery was effected at the stall of Mr. Brown, jeweler, Bradford Market Hall, and about £40 worth of watches and jewelry stolen without leaving any trace of the thieves behind. The Market Hall is supposed to be under the eye of a police officer on duty.

Window Smashing by an Anarchist.

HENRY CONWAY, nineteen, clerk, who smashed the window of Edward Wallis Perry, jeweler, 90, Oxford-street, W., and stole therefrom a tray of diamond rings worth £420, was brought up at the last County of London Sessions. He protested that he did it on Anarchist principles, and that had he been successful one-third of the property whould have gone to Nicol when he came out of gaol, one third to himself, and the other third to the unemployed. Sir P. Edlin questioned the sanity of the prisoner and sent him back to the mental physician. Three of the rings, valued at £50, were lost. He was afterwards lectured and sent to gaol.

Fraudulent Bailee.

F. W. TURNBULL, formerly of Scotland-road, Liverpool, was recently ordered to pay a fine of 5s. and costs, together with the amounts for which the articles had been pawned, in a number of cases in which he had pawned watches left with him to repair, or in default to go to gaol for one month.

Keep an Eye on the Condition of the Bells.

On the afternoon of the 11th ult., Mr. Selfe, a Tything jeweler, had retired into his back room, possibly to refresh worn and worried nature, resting assured that the opening of his closed front door would be made known by the familiar clang of the bell clapper. In this, unfortunately, he was disappointed, for upon his return into the shop he found that a case of jewelry to the value of nearly £100 had disappeared. Turning to his tell-tale, he discovered that it had been tampered with, and so the thieves had been able to enter and depart unnoticed!

The Wolverhampton Burglary.

In July last the shop of Charles Hollins, Wolverhampton, was burglarised and a quantity of jewelry stolen. A coat with certain professional articles was all that was left behind wherewith to trace the crook. Recently the Birmingham police apprehended a man who gave the name of William Adams, and stated his address as Duke-street, Glasgow. He had in his possession certain of the stolen articles, which, taken with the fact that the coat left behind fits him and that he gave a wrong address, was considered sufficient to send him to trial.

A Dangerous Couple.

Thomas and Mary Ryan recently entered the shop of P. Pfaff, jeweler, High-street, West Sunderland, and not being contented with stealing, upon being detected they commenced smashing cases and everything they could get at, and attacking the jeweler. In the struggle, however, Ryan got badly cut about the head with broken glass. Both prisoners were sent for trial.

How Watch Clubs are Managed.

A case came before the Wells County-court which called forth some rather strong language from the Judge. It appears two lads paid 23s. and 25s., respectively, to a man who was a secretary to the "Mutual Watch Club Association," 106, Cheapside, and getting into arrears were told the money was forfeited; whereupon they sued the secretary. His Honor remarked it was a lamentable thing that these boys should pay their money to the secretary, and that it should reach Kendal and Dent, and that either the former or the latter should keep it. A letter was put in from Kendal and Dent to the secretary: "We certainly should advise you to compromise the matter. If you can get them to have goods for the amount they paid you, we think it would be the best way." His Honor gave judgment for the plaintiffs.

Capture of a French Jewel-Robber.

In the early part of September one Emile Ebstein took apartments over the shop of a Dieppe jeweler, from which he departed in the night. On the following morning it was discovered that before leaving Ebstein had paid a visit to the shop below and relieved it of some £5,000 worth of goods. It was believed he had made for England, a surmise which resulted in the Scotland Yard detectives making a clever though difficult capture, in which one of our officers was severely injured. A quantity of the stolen property was found in the house in which he was lodging, and he is now sent back to France.

Revival of "the old Treacle Trick."

An undesirable gang of villains have been operating lately at Liverpool, and amongst their other nefarious operations have had recourse to the old "treacle trick." Number one swell calls upon a watchmaker, telling him that a certain gentleman at the other end of the town wishes him to go at once and see to some clocks. This the unsuspecting tradesman immediately proceeds to do, leaving his shop in charge of an old assistant. Immediately afterwards number two comes in, and asks for something, but at the same time inquires if the man in charge is aware that the window is besmeared with something like treacle. He invites him outside to see, and even volunteers to help him get it off, a process so tedious that before it is finished the master comes back, to find that the treacle is not the only thing that has been removed. Whilst the man is outside a third confederate steps in and clears off a quantity of gold and silver watches.

A Soldier "Grab Thief."

Edwin Walker was an old soldier on furlough from the Gloucestershire Regiment, and proceeding to the shop of A. J. Ash, Old Market-street, Bristol, on a quiet October evening, asked to see some watches, which were duly shown him. As soon as the back of the jeweler was turned the old soldier picked up a watch, and darted. But the jeweler was too agile to be "old soldiered," and soon had him safe in the arms of a policeman. Six weeks of his absence from the army will be spent in hard labor.

Clergyman Shepherd Gets Three Years' Imprisonment.

About six months ago we reported this case, in which the above reverend gentleman had obtained certain articles of expensive jewelry from Nugent Wills, Newport, and others, and had subsequently pawned them. An ingenious defence was set up, but at last he has been brought in guilty and sentenced to three years' penal servitude.

Late Sub-lieutenant Kitchin Liberated on Security.

Another case we have previously reported is that of a late sub-lieutenant in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who paid accounts for jewelry and drew large proportions of change from J. Cockburn, jeweler, Richmond, and others with cheques upon an overdrawn account. All through the cases the prisoner protested he "intended to pay," but he has been in prison since July, a punishment which the judge considered sufficient, and therefore bound him over in two securities of £50 each and a personal recognisance of £50 to come up for judgment if called upon.

The Lady Traveller was not a Success.

Colin Mitchell is a Leeds watch and jewelry dealer, and strongly believing in the persuasive powers of the fair sex, engaged a youthful maiden in the capacity of traveller. The temptation, however, appears to have been too strong for the "weaker vessel," and according to the dealer, she sent fictitious orders home upon which she obtained commission, and afterwards pawned the goods. The defence stated that a neighbor had obtained goods from the defendant, which she had pawned, and with feminine charitableness she had attempted to cover her neighbor's delinquencies, and had not benefited one penny by the transaction. The magistrate was moved by the position of the young lady and fined her ten shillings for each case, and ten shillings the assessed value of the goods, or fourteen days in each case. Then came the question of the pawnbrokers, which the jeweler did not find so easily settled as he imagined. It was not till he had paid three-fourths of the money advanced that he could obtain re-possession of the goods.

Action by a "Tramp" for False Imprisonment.

Joseph Deadman is a jeweler in High-street, Beckenham, and in that quiet little village he is content to leave his shop and stock in the custody of his wife, while he transacts his outdoor business. On a September afternoon, when the lady had retired into the back room she heard a click, and looking round saw a man of a very questionable character with his hand upon the window fastening. "How dare you touch that?" said she, going up to the intruder and viewing his features for two minutes. "Oh, I'm a blind maker," was the reply. However, his intentions, in Mrs. Deadman's mind, were something worse than looking for work, and as soon as her husband came home she informed him of the occurrence, and also went to the police station and gave a description of the man. Later on in the evening she saw either the same man or his double, whom she handed over to the police; and he was accordingly charged with "being a suspected person found in No. 94, High-street, supposed for the purpose of committing a felony." The man, who was found to be a bricklayer's laborer out of work, but selling matches, was brought up and remanded for a week, and ultimately discharged upon the technical point that he ought to have been given in custody while on the premises or "immediately" afterwards. The out-of-work bricklayers' laborer now has a solicitor willing to take up his case, as many kind gentlemen often will. An action for £50 ensues for false imprisonment. His Honor pointed out that the prosecution must prove that he was maliciously and wrongfully given into custody. After hearing the evidence his Honor dismissed the malice, and upon Mrs. Deadman being called she said she had not the slightest doubt in the world about the man being the same that entered the shop three hours before she saw him for the second time and gave him into custody. The defence pointed out also that the man's evidence was untrustworthy. Ultimately the jury found for the plaintiff, damages 30s., with 3s. costs.

Juvenile Shoplifters Again.

The other day a young rascal of twelve summers smashed a Penzance jeweler's window, took therefrom three timekeepers, one of which he sold for the sum of tenpence, another he exchanged for a magic lantern, whilst the third he left for repairs at another watchmaker's. For all this he was awarded twelve strokes with the birch rod.

Ed. Aldridge, Watchmaker.

A subscriber will be glad if any reader can oblige with the approximate date of a clock made by "Ed. Aldridge, Deal."

Some Cycle Improvements.

"I HAVE been spending the whole of ths day looking over these cycles," observed one of the largest manufacturers at the Chicago Exhibition, "and from the identity of the principles employed in each I guess we are at high water mark and have reached as near perfection as is possible to man." Sweeping as were these assertions they nevertheless received the approbation of a group of American cycle manufacturers, and when an English observer noticed that the principles were born in his own country he did not feel disposed to disagree with the verdict. But perfection can never be more than relative, and so long as there are cycles so long will there be improvements in them; even the much lauded pneumatic tyre has its drawbacks; and William Doig, of 125, New Bond-street, asserts that the pneumatic principle has hitherto been wrongly applied, and that the hub and not the flange of the wheel should be cushioned in air, and has accordingly patented a hub which he claims possesses all the advantages of the pneumatic tyre, but will last three times as long as the ordinary ring of air.

In another improvement, now shown in shop windows and seen about the streets no spokes are visible, the wheels being a hollow disc of rubber, kept in form and position by wires. Whether either of these will show the strength of the ordinary pneumatic remains to be seen.

Amongst the various improvements brought out from time to time, gearing has claimed a large share of attention, but up to the present, we believe it has been impossible to alter the gearing chain without removing the case. Messrs. Smith and Buckley have now taken out a patent for a detachable and interchangeable case; one in which, should the chain require any altering, it can be accomplished without removing the case.

Another novelty in cycles is the application of steam by an ingenious petroleum engine, the invention of a Glasgow engineer. The steam is generated in an insulated boiler between the wheels, and after super-heating, passes to the propelling machinery on each side of the rear wheel. The fuel is petroleum, enough of which can be carried to heat the boiler for three hours. It is claimed that the machine weighs only 80lb., can be driven fourteen miles an hour, and will cost only £10 more than an ordinary safety machine.

Keeping Trade in Mother City.—An application was recently made by the Town Clerk, Edinburgh, as to whether a schedule for the supply of silver caskets should be sent to an English firm who had applied for one, when the Lord Provost replied that, while he was a Free-Trader, he thought that these caskets should be confined to Edinburgh, on the ground that they should endeavor to encourage the education of Edinburgh silversmiths.

Early Closing.—Sir John Lubbock has lately been urging the claims of the over-worked shop assistants. In the course of his address at the Congress of the Early Closing Association at Nottingham he said that he could not help thinking there was no more urgent, grave, and pressing question at the present time than early closing, yet it was extraordinary how little attention it received, even from politicians. After proving this assertion he went on to observe that comparatively little would be done by voluntary action, and it was necessary to have some legislation. What they asked for was that when two-thirds of the shopkeepers in any trade desired it the Town Council or County Council should have the power to close the shops earlier in the evening, and to arrange for a weekly half-holiday. We wish Sir John had started fifty years before. Only half that time ago we were putting in eighty-one hours a week, with the result that to-day we find ourselves *old* in middle life.

Those Ingenious Watchmakers.—An American contemporary says: There is an old fashioned road inn, down on the border line of the 27th Ward, known as the "Union Hotel." It has been a road-house for sixty-three years, and some time ago was kept by old Captain Serrill, who had an inventive son, now a jeweler on South Ninth-street. In the old building are many ingenious clockwork machines, constructed by young Serrill years ago. Among them is a large hen, so constructed that by dropping a coin in the slot the bird lays an egg. This is said to be the origin of the penny-in-the-slot machine. It was never patented, but all the present inventions of this class are said to have originated in the watchmakers egg-laying hen.

Is Knowledge Power?—One of our American trade contemporaries preaches a sermon the tenor of which is that the jeweler ought to be a mere salesman, that knowledge of the processes of manufacturing, repairing, etc., is of little value. And no doubt they believe it, and that there are many just such uninformed people in the trade; as upon turning to their advertisements we find someone advertising "Mocos, jayacinths, crystals, chrisolites, chrisophrays, and Malakites," from which it would appear that they intend banishing the dictionary also!

OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

BACHNER, M., *Jeweler*, 32, BREWER-STREET, REGENT-STREET, LONDON, W. In this case a receiving order was made for October 2nd, the petitioner adjudicated on the 11th ult., and the first meeting of creditors held at Carey-street on the 12th ult. The examination is set down for the 8th inst., at twelve o'clock, at the Bankruptcy-buildings, Carey-street. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Boss and Co.	London	179	7	6
Backes and Strauss	,,	110	0	0
Mossman and Co.	,,	241	10	0
Millard, —	,,	199	19	6
Ridpath and Ridpath	,,	206	12	4
Speyer. —	,,	183	19	5
Whitehorn Bros.	,,	1,009	0	0
Wasserberg, —	,,	82	0	0
FULLY SECURED CREDITOR		414	0	0
PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS		21	19	0

CARTER, FREDERICK JOSEPH, *Jeweler's Factor* (CARTER AND CO., trading as), 89, VYSE-STREET, BIRMINGHAM, and 102, THORNHILL-ROAD, HANDSWORTH. In this case a receiving order was made on September 30th. The Official Receiver reports that the debtor offers a composition of 8s. in the £, payable by three instalments, at three, six, and nine months. The liabilities, as shown by debtor's statement of affairs, amount to £2,109, and assets at £879 after payment of preferential debts. Debtor estimates his stock to produce £425, but as 8s. in the £ would amount to £843, a dividend of 8s. would not be had if the estate were wound up in bankruptcy. Up to September, 1892, debtor was engaged as a jeweler's traveller, after which time, with a capital of £150, he commenced business as a jewelers' factor at 89, Vyse-street. In November, 1892, he entrusted four watches valued at £89 to a friend for sale abroad, from whom he has not since heard. In June, 1893, his clerks took stock, and in July he found an error of over £200 had been made. The balance-sheet showed a small surplus. In the same month he was called upon to pay £100 legal expenses. He then commenced borrowing, and gave a bill of sale, and also pawned certain articles. The first meeting of creditors is set down for the 9th inst., and the examination for the 23rd inst. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Alldridge	Birmingham	27	3	0
Bissell	,,	109	0	0
Durban and Co.	,,	250	0	0
Devenport, W.	,,	160	0	0
Field, W. and F.	,,	52	0	0
Griffiths	,,	22	10	0
Horton, J.	,,	74	11	6
Hinde Bros.	,,	45	3	3
Haseler Bros.	,,	25	17	8
Haseler, W. and P.	,,	131	12	7
Male and Jones	,,	30	0	0
Mayell Bros.	,,	23	17	2
Rolason Bros.	,,	85	0	0
Reading	,,	84	6	0
Saks, S.	,,	70	0	0
Westwood, B. W.	,,	135	0	0
Walton, F. A.	,,	34	0	0
Mills, W.	,,	135	0	0
Horner, C.	Halifax	33	9	0
Telford, W. H.	Whitehaven	32	0	0
Twine, W. F.		113	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS		21	0	0
PARTLY SECURED CREDITORS		85	0	0

CROOK, ABRAHAM, *Watch Manufacturer*, 2, OXFORD-TERRACE, CHAPEL-FIELDS, COVENTRY, and PATRICROFT, NEAR MANCHESTER, was adjudicated a bankrupt on the 2nd ult., and the first meeting held on the 12th ult., at which some extraordinary statements were made concerning the debtor. The debts proved amounted to £465, and it was stated debtor's son had a claim for £130 for wages. A warrant was issued against debtor for concealing his property and his books, and was sent to Manchester, but was not executed. On September 25th the High Bailiff was informed that bankrupt was in Coventry, and he went with a man to arrest him. Debtor emerged from the cellar, presented a pistol, which was believed to be loaded, and said he would shoot the High Bailiff if he laid hands on him. The officer then left the house to get the assistance of the police, and meanwhile Crook escaped. He was reported to have been seen in Manchester during the last few days, but did not appear at the meeting. It appeared bankrupt had been buying goods and allowing his son to have them. The son was carrying on the business that the father used to carry on, but the creditors could not claim against the son. The examination was adjourned. The hope was expressed that he would yet be arrested, and the Board of Trade were to be asked to assist the creditors.

COLLBRAN, Thomas William, *Watchmaker*, High-street, Hailsham, has been adjudicated a bankrupt, and the first meeting of creditors set down for October 31st, at the Official Receiver's office, Brighton. The public examination will be held at the County Hall, Lewes, to-day, November 1st, at 11.30 a.m.

EVANS, John, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, Conway-road, and Kinmel House, Colwyn Bay, South Wales. In this case a receiving order was made on the 9th ult., and the first meeting of the creditors held at the Crypt-chambers, Chester, on October 26th. The examination will take place in the magistrate's room, Bangor, on the 2nd inst.

LEESON, William Tansley, and Leeson, George William Tansley, *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, Anson-street, Rugeley (Leeson and Son, *Turret Clock Manufacturers*, High-street, Coleshill, also trading as). In this case a receiving order was made on the 18th ult.

LEE, George, *Optician, etc.* (George Lee and Son, trading as), 31, Osborne-road, Southsea, was, on September 20th, adjudged a bankrupt. The first meeting of the creditors was held at the Official Receiver's office, Portsmouth, on October 11th, and the public examination on the 23rd at the Court-house, Portsmouth. The liabilities amount to £674. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Autotype Co.	London	19	10	0
Berlin Photographic Co.	,,	25	6	0
Culber, G.	,,	15	0	0
Darton, F., and Co.	,,	19	3	0
Hanfstaengl, Franz	,,	18	6	0
Koenemann and Co.	,,	25	0	0
King and Sons	,,	20	0	0
Lewes, E., and Co.	,,	17	0	0
Marples, M.	,,	21	0	0
Marson and Co.	,,	12	15	6
Slade Bros., and Lacey	,,	23	13	0
Wells and Lyon	,,	16	10	0
Butt, J. E., and Son	Brighton	14	6	0
Frost and Reed	Bristol	12	6	0
Haydon, T. W.	Southsea	249	14	0
Lapthorne...	,,	20	0	0

MANNING, John, *Watchmaker*, 80, Boutport-street, Barnstaple, has been adjudicated a bankrupt, and came up for public examination at Barnstaple Bankruptcy Court on the 10th ult. The liabilities amounted to £1,621, and the deficiency, £781. The debtor commenced business in 1878 with a borrowed capital of £200. He had a branch business at Okehampton, but stopped it some years ago. His failure was attributed to want of capital. He became aware of his insolvency four years ago. The furniture was claimed by the wife. The examination was adjourned in order that debtor might file a deficiency account. There are upwards of twenty claims of about £10, and the following are amongst the list of the remaining creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Carhlian and Beaumetz	London	17	13	0
Dawkins, P., and Co.	,,	12	6	9
Lamy, J. P., and Co.	,,	14	0	0
Murcock, J. G., and Co.	,,	32	9	0
Iremeer, J. J.	Barnstaple	36	15	0
Manning, William	High Bickingtcn	571	0	0

RAILTON, William, *Jeweler and General Factor*, 70, Eastbourne-street, and 9, Church-lane, Liverpool, has petitioned, and a receiving oider was granted on the 16th ult.

REYNOLDSON, Arthur, *Jeweler*, 9 and 35, Canal, Salisbury. In this case a receiving order was made on the 20th ult.

ROBERTS, William Alfred, *Jeweler and Silversmith*, Clifton-place, Bailey-street, and 21, Bailey-street, Oswestry, has been adjudicated.

ROBERTS, H., *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, formerly of 281, Kentish Town-road, London, N.W., but at present believed to be at 65, Park-road, West Ham. In this case a receiving order has been made and the debtor adjudicated.

SPENCER, William James, *Optician*, 165 and 167, Gray's Inn-road. The statement of affairs shows liabilities to the estimated amount of £255, partly secured creditor (estimated value of security £4) £188, preferential creditors £201. The debtor attributes his failure to a falling off of trade, the expenses of a large family, and inability to underlet premises. He had kept no proper books : The examination is set down for the 14th inst. Amongst the list of creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Confidential Loan Co.	London	15	8	9
Depre	,,	114	0	0
Denny	,,	20	0	0
Mills, F.	,,	28	0	0
Scott Bros.	,,	19	0	0
Sharland	,,	15	9	7
West London Building Society	,,	24	0	0

HOWARTH, Robert, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 133, Market-street, Droylsden. This creditor came up for examination at the Aston Bankruptcy-court, on the 5th ult. In the bankrupt's statement of affairs he alleged as the cause of his failure depression in trade owing to the cotton strike of last winter. His gross liabilities amounted to £135, and his assets to £58. He commenced business six years ago with £20 capital, and became aware of his insolvency last Christmas, but thought he would recover himself. In reply to the Official Receiver he stated that the cotton strike reduced both his sales and his work. He admitted that he had pawned watches which were unpaid for in order to be able to file his petition, as he had no other resources. He had also done the same thing last March to raise money for his rent. The Official Receiver asked what justification he had for pawning goods not paid for, to which the debtor replied, "I hadn't anything else which would bring money in." The Receiver said the proper thing would have been to have filed his petition then. The examination was very brief.

GAUNT, Joseph, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, Queen-street, Barnsley. In this case the Official Receiver said that the debtor commenced business in 1866, and having filed his petition in bankruptcy in that year, and got his discharge, he had no capital. He had kept a cashbook and ledger. His debts were £260, and he estimated his assets at, stock-in-trade and fixtures, £100 ; book debts, £4 18s. 6d. ; cash in hand, 2s. ; making the total assets £105. The preferential creditors were, £17 ; and the deficiency £167. Debtor had been carrying on from hand to mouth since he was bankrupt before, and since the strike had been going to the bad at the rate of about £3 a week. At no time had his Queen-street shop paid, but he had hoped for the best. The debtor's public examination was of a merely formal character, and he was allowed to pass.

LARARD, Frederick, *Watchmaker* (G. E. Frodsham, *Watch and Chronometer Maker*, 31, Gracechurch-street, E.C., lately trading as). The particulars of the failure are now issued, from which it appears that the liabilities amount to £930. Unsecured creditors, £870 ; assets nil. Debtor stated that from 1884 to 1888 he carried on the business by himself, after which he converted it into a limited company, of which he was managing director, at a salary of £300 a year. The company went into liquidation in August last, the debtor being appointed liquidator. A Receiving Order was made against the debtor on a creditor's petition.

ABEL, Frank, *Jeweler*, High-street, Bordesley, appeared on the 12th ult. for his public examination. In reply to questions put to him by the Official Receiver, he said his liabilities were £120 and his assets nil. This was his fourth failure in ten years, and he had received no discharge. He had lately carried on business at premises taken in his wife's name. The examination was concluded. [Is not this a case for the Treasury ?—Ed.]

SANDEMAN, JACOB, whose case has been fully reported before, has done nothing towards complying with several orders of the court to furnish accounts and information as to how, when, and where he had lost jewelry and money in the somewhat incredible fashion he had represented when examined before the court. On being called into the box on the 10th ult. the bankrupt admitted that he had not filed accounts, but said he had endeavoured to get the necessary information, but failed. The Registrar said this was a matter in which he could have no possible doubt as to the course to take. The examination would be adjourned *sine die* without prejudice to any application the Official Receiver might make to commit the bankrupt for contempt of court.

ORCHARD, Alfred, *Optician* (Alfred Carter, trading as), High-street, Exeter. In this case the debtor's statement of affairs showed liabilities expected to rank, unsecured creditors, £357 18s. 3d., and creditors fully secured £915 ;

assets, property, £155; book debts, good, £67 18s. 2d.; doubtful and bad, £40 7s. 2d., and estimated to produce £1; total £213 18s. 2d., from which has been deducted £8 1s. 3d. for preferential creditors, leaving total assets of £205 16s. 11d., and a deficiency of £152 1s. 4d. Debtor attributed his failure to bad trade, pressure of creditors, and ill-health. The Official Receiver said:—"The debtor states that he commenced business about six years ago without any capital, and that the business was insolvent when he took it from his uncle. He has kept a day-book, ledger, and rough cash book. He says he did not become aware of his insolvency until a few months ago. He has never taken stock nor prepared any statement of his assets and liabilities. In or about the year 1881, Mr. Thomas Tarraway, of Melbourne, died, leaving Mrs. Carter £300, which was then settled on trustees for her benefit."

DOTTER, John Nepomucene, *Jeweler*, Market-place, Leicester. The public examination in this case took place at the Leicester Bankruptcy Court on the 3rd ult. The statement of affairs showed liabilities of £938; assets, £38. Debtor stated he was formerly manager to Mr. Willman. In 1868 he married his employer's widow and took the business over; in 1891 the stock and furniture was valued at about £1,000, subsequently he sold some £300 worth of his old stock as old gold, involving a loss of £200. He failed on July 7th last, showing a deficiency of £925, thus showing a loss of £1,425 in two years. Debtor stated that his turnover was £1,000 to £1,200 a year, therefore could not tell how he lost the money. He was now acting as agent to an insurance company. He admitted the probability that the goods sold at pawnbrokers had not been paid for. The examination was adjourned in order that the debtor might amend his deficiency account.

WILLIAMS, Charles Arthur, *Optician*, 82, Miskin-street, Cathays, Cardiff, late Barry Dock, has been adjudicated and a receiving order made on 13th ult.

HAMMOND, George William, *Watch Manufacturer*, Portland-terrace, Chapel Fields, Coventry. This debtor has been up for public examination. It was stated he was originally a watch case manufacturer, but within the last ten or twelve years watch manufacturing was the principal part of his trade. His business prospered, and eighteen years ago, out of his savings, he built the house in which he lived, at a cost of nearly £2,000, apart from furniture and plant. He now only had eight small debtors and his trade had fallen off rapidly lately. He was not insolvent until he had some heavy losses through speculations on the Stock Exchange a short time before filing his petition. His son, who had worked for him, had advanced money out of his savings to pay wages for several weeks recently. He had been buying and selling shares for ten or twelve years past almost entirely for speculation. As the watchmaking business decreased his speculations increased. His fortnightly transactions amounted to between £2,000 and £4,000. When the account closed, in June last, the transactions for the fortnight were £4,425. From first to last he had lost nearly £3,000 on these transactions, and he had lost as much in business. Mr. Tallentire, the agent through whom the dealings took place, understood that they were speculations. The amount due to Tallentire, the Stock Exchange agent, was over £600, which had accrued since May last in about a month. He received a writ, but defended the action in order to gain time; if he could have got money he should have paid him. Provided he paid the money into court he could have defended the writ, and it was his inability to pay the money that led him to file his petition. Apart from his Stock Exchange liabilities he was solvent, and in May last was even solvent with them. His bankruptcy was due to the heavy fall in American rails, consequent upon the failure of the Chicago Exhibition. The Registrar: The reason of the debtor's insolvency is pure speculation; nothing else. The Official Receiver said Mr. Tallentire's proof was being held over, pending the result of cases in the High Court, which would show whether the money was recoverable or not. The examination was afterwards closed.

DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT.

JONAS, Asher, *Jeweler*, 8, Monument-road, Birmingham, has assigned to G. G. Poppleton, C.A., Corporation-row, Birmingham, with a committee of inspection, with a view to full payment of creditors. Deed filed October 20th. The unsecured liabilities are estimated at £1,090, and assets at £1,010. Among the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Harburg, H., and Co.	London	109	0	0
Weill and Co.	,,	41	0	0
Allday, H., and Son	Birmingham	29	0	0
Britton, B. H., and Sons	Birmingham	94	0	0
Freedman, —	,,	27	0	0
Levy, David	,,	66	0	0
Cohen, Philip	Coventry	35	0	0
Hill, Thomas and Co.	,,	145	0	0
Hawley, T., and Son	,,	98	0	0
Kinder, Thomas	,,	133	0	0
Pepper, Payton, and Co.	Birmingham	42	0	0
Bankers' Claims		74	0	0

FRYDE, Emanuel, *Jeweler*, 40, Frederick-street, Sunderland, has assigned to R. A. Brown, C.A., Sunderland, with a view to a composition of 6s. in the £ by three instalments at four, eight, and twelve months. Filed October 2nd, the unsecured liabilities £2,354, and assets estimated at £593. Amongst the list of creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Weill and Co.	London	129	14	6
Fulda and David	,,	58	12	6
Michael Bros.	,,	30	18	0
Goode, John, and Son	Birmingham	175	0	0
Blanckensee and Son	,,	38	1	0
Hill, Thomas, and Co.	Coventry	342	13	0
Kinder, T.	,,	341	9	0
Rodgers, J., and Co.	,,	93	12	6
Richardson, J.	,,	70	8	0
Newsome and Co.	,,	81	0	0
Machin, C. E.	Sunderland	788	6	11
Goldman, Isadore	,,	150	0	0
Bankers' Claims		41	0	0

HOFFMEIER Fridolin, *Jeweler*, 324, York-road, Wandsworth, has made a deed of assignment for the benefit of his creditors to Percy Mason, C.A., King-street, E.C., as trustee. The unsecured liabilities are put at £640, and the assets at £325. Among the creditors are the following — John Greenwood and Son, £27; W. Lewis, £24; Edward Ling, £159; H. F. Unna, £120; F. W. Perrier, £42; Julius Nordmann, £25; J. Vogt, £27, all of London; M. Kleiser, Ware, £40.

RIDDING, Francis Holmes, *Optician*, Stroud Green, N., has assigned by order on terms. Trustee, Myer L. Isaacs, Furnival-street, W.C. Estimated liabilities, £340; secured creditors, £80. The assets are estimated at £200. Among the creditors are the following:—J. Levi and Co., £41; Societe des Lunetiers, £112; White and Co., £20; Robinson and Sons, £33, all of London.

PAPPI, Samuel Isaac, *Jeweler*, 137, Ladywood-road, Birmingham, has assigned to G. G. Poppleton, C.A., with a committee of inspection. Filed October. The secured creditors, £215; unsecured liabilities, £1,531. The assets are estimated at £1,568. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Harburg, H., and Co.	London	112	0	0
Jeannot, P.	,,	57	0	0
Allday, John, and Son	Birmingham	54	0	0
Blanckensee, S., and Co., Limited	,,	132	0	0
Cohen, Philip	,,	114	0	0
Freedman, J.	,,	38	0	0
Goode, J., and Son	,,	37	0	0
Lyons, M.	,,	112	0	0
Levy, David	,,	52	0	0
Whitehouse, E.	,,	259	0	0
Hill, Thomas	Coventry	263	0	0
Hawley, W. H.	,,	112	0	0
Yeomans, S.	,,	101	0	0
Bankers' Claims		215	0	0

PRICE, Thomas, *Jeweler*, 35, Llewellyn-street, Penton, Ystradyfodwg, has assigned to Thomas Jones, grocer, Pentre, who also becomes security, with a view of payment of a composition of 5s. in the £, by three instalments at two, four, and six months. The unsecured liabilities are £226, the assets estimated at £130. Amongst the creditors are:—J. Drews and Co., London, £23; Israel Silverston and Co., Birmingham, £47 15s. 2d.; Israel Cohen and Son, Birmingham, £23 19s.; Lancashire Watch Co., Limited, Prescot, £21 7s. 1d.

KNIBBS, Henry, 18, Spencer-street, Birmingham, and GODFREY, William, The Briars, Erdington, (Sloane and Carter, trading as), *Jewelers*, 18, Spencer-street, have executed a deed of assignment and inspectorship, with a view to the payment of a composition of 7s. 6d. in the £, by three equal instalments at six, twelve, and eighteen months, to Allen Edwards, C.A., 14, Bennett's Hill, Birmingham. The unsecured liabilities are £14,110; and the assets estimated to produce £8,774. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Koch and Dreyfus	London	49	11	0
Robbins and Appleton	,,	74	7	8

		£	s.	d.
Weill and Co.	London	62	14	5
Adie and Lovekin	Birmingham	37	19	6
Aston, H. H.	,,	57	4	8
Booth, E. T., and Son	,,	269	15	2
Britton and Sons	,,	168	16	6
Beesley, D.	,,	316	9	6
Banks, J. M.	,,	39	0	0
Coley Bros.	,,	199	0	7
Davenport, W.	,,	41	1	1
Durban and Co.	,,	159	3	8
Emanuel, L.	,,	44	3	2
Ewen, Albert	,,	82	10	4
Green, A., and Co.	,,	91	2	2
Green, C., and Son	,,	173	5	2
Haseler, W. H.	,,	45	12	4
Hyde, H., and Son	,,	330	9	9
Johnstone, G. H., and Co	,,	394	8	0
Levy, D.	,,	122	8	6
Payton, C., and Sons	,,	37	7	0
Phillips, H.	,,	160	12	2
Patterson and Co.	,,	96	8	10
Perks, M., and Co.	,,	52	9	6
Scattergood and Greathead	,,	62	4	9
Sheldon Bros.	,,	155	11	1
Smith, J., and Co.	,,	47	9	6
Smith, J. and Sons	,,	37	8	9
Smith and Ewen	,,	672	0	9
Unite, G., and Sons	,,	32	3	8
Vaughton, E.	,,	63	17	3
Villiers and Jackson	,,	40	8	3
Wakefield, R. J.	,,	55	6	3
Walton, G. E.	,,	55	11	7
Rotheram and Son	Coventry	175	5	5
BANKERS' CLAIMS		1,380	0	6

SMITH, ROBERT, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, CHURCH PLACE, LURGAN, has petitioned for an arrangement with his creditors, the unsecured liabilities being £1,854, and assets estimated at £469. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Grimshaw and Baxter	London	118	19	0
Thompson, J., and Son	,,	39	15	0
Steel and Sons	Belfast	29	2	8
Holmes, W. J.	Birmingham	230	17	4
Mott, Thomas	,,	247	0	0
Cohen, J., and Co.	,,	148	12	6
Harris, H., and Co.	,,	106	14	4
Norman, S. E.	Cheetham	66	14	5
French, Robert	Glasgow	60	0	0
Pearson, Thomas	,,	39	12	0
Dickson, James	Lurgan	187	4	6
Hayes, Hugh	,,	40	0	0
Emerson, William	,,	30	0	0
Nodder, John, and Sons	Sheffield	130	0	0
Tower Cycle Co.	Wolverhampton	32	10	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS		62	0	0

KNIGHT, JOHN GEORGE, *Watchmaker*, 13 and 14, HARCOURT-ROAD, DUBLIN, has filed a petition for arrangement. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £189, and assets at £95. Amongst the creditors are Grimshaw and Baxter, London, £22 ; Goodbody and Co., Dublin, £20 ; Fulda and David, London, £28 ; Elkham and Co., London, £22 ; J. A. Maud, Birmingham, £11 ; Paton and Co., Dublin, £68.

NOTICES TO CREDITORS.

ROBERTSON, ROBERT LENNOX, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 527, GOVAN-ROAD, GLASGOW. First dividend at 157, West, George-street, Glasgow, on and after December 4th.

SHEARER, SOLOMON, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 338, CROWN-STREET, GLASGOW. Meeting : Sheriff-substitute, Bernie's Chambers, Glasgow, February 23rd, 1894.

APPLICATIONS FOR DISCHARGE, &c.

BARKSHIRE, JAMES, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 1, ST. MARY'S-PARADE, MINSTER-STREET, READING, applies for discharge at the Assize Court, Reading, November 16th.

CROUCH, JOSEPH MCGREGOR, *Jeweler*, 212, REGENT-STREET, W. Application for discharge, Bankruptcy-buildings, W.C., November 2nd, at 11.30.

LAWSON, WILLIAM JOHN, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, HEBBURN, applied for his discharge, which was granted, but suspended for six months.

ROBINSON, HENRY, *Jeweler*, BRADFORD. Discharge granted, subject to three months' suspension.

DISSOLUTIONS OF PARTNERSHIP.

KNIGHT, JOHN AND CO., *Wholesale and Retail Jewelers, etc.*, 13, ALBION-STREET, and 47, BOAR-LANE, LEEDS. September 29th. Debts of the Albion-street wholesale and retail business by Frederick Harrisson Knight and William Craven, who continue there under the style of Fred Knight and Co., and debts of the Boar-lane retail business by Joseph John Knight, who continues there under the style of John Knight.

SALMON AND BROWN, *Gem Setters*, 104, VYSE-STREET, BIRMINGHAM. March 18th. Debts by Sidney Brown.

SHAKESPEARE BROS., *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, 36, DEVON'S-ROAD, BROMLEY-BY-BOW, and 298, ROMAN-ROAD, OLD FORD, BOW. October 16th. Debts by James Shakespeare.

WOODS AND TOSSAINT, *Wholesale Chronometer and Watch Jewel Manufacturers and Dealers in Precious Stones*, 54, SPENCER-STREET, CLERKENWELL. September 29th Debts by Thomas George Woods.

The King of Denmark's Casket.

IT will be remembered that during the recent visit of the King of Denmark to the City, the Corporation of the City of London presented his Majesty with an address of welcome, and afterwards decided that it should be enclosed in a suitable gold casket. This superb work of art has just been finished. As usual on such occasions, the competition was a severe one, but ultimately the designs of J. W. Benson, Ludgate-hill, were accepted. The casket is of Renaissance design, the general form being oblong, with round ends, relieved by four bold pilasters. On the front are the arms of the City, surrounded by four spandrels in relief, enclosing a rose, emblematical of England, in ruby enamel. On one pilaster the King of Denmark's initial "C" reversed, threaded by an olive branch, emblem of peace, and surmounted by the Danish Royal Crown. On the other side are the City cap, sword, and mace, and olive branch. The back of the body corresponds with the front, which bears the legend of presentation. Two panels at each end contain views of the Mansion House, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Tower Bridge, and an old Viking ship. Running round the base are festoons of flowers in bold relief, and twelve shields, the centre one and the two end ones containing the arms of the old Danish Kings, the others the arms of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. The top is decorated with festoons of flowers and red enamel roses, and is surmounted by the arms and crown of Denmark.

Magnetic Insulators.—It will be remembered that we called the attention of the trade to the uselessness of shields of "non-conducting" materials to render watches secure from magnetisation. One would have thought that everyone had seen the illustration of needles placed in glass tubes, with helices of wire round them in the process of being made into magnets! Apropos of this *Lightning* recently contained the following :—"Electricity is becoming a watchword in Leeds. One leading jeweler exhibits a sort of horn or vulcanite case, whereon is the following inscription :—'The new Patent Watch Protector, made of non-conducting material. This acts as a protection against magnetism. Also against dust, dirt, scratches, etc. Price 9d. each. A few doors round the corner another jeweler and watchmaker offers the same apparatus for sale ; but having probably found out that an insulator against electricity is not a protector against magnetism, he offers it magnanimously at a reduction of 50 per cent. Let us hope all our readers have sufficient knowledge of electricity and magnetism, and love of honor, not to try to gull the public with these useless articles.'

A Silver Cradle for Provost Mitchell.—James Aitchison, the well-known Edinburgh jeweler, recently supplied the Magistrates and Town Council of Montrose with a silver cradle for their Provost, on the occasion of the birth of his daughter. The structure is a somewhat massive one, recalling the old wooden panelled articles of the Jacobean period. The side panels contain views of the Queen City, and the end panel the monogram, J.M.

A Clockwork Gas Lighter.—In many good tower clocks the gas is turned up and down by an automatic action of the clock. A New Englander has adapted this principle for street lamps. A small clockwork movement is affixed to the lamp, and only requires to be wound up once a week, and it lights up the luminary at sunset, and turns out at sunrise.

Advance, Electricity.—The success which has of late years attended the electrolytic deposition of even the refractory metals from their ores, has had a stimulating effect among nearly all the metals. Already the advances in the production of aluminium by this process has exceeded the limits of possibility which existed in the minds of so many well-informed men. News now comes to hand of an electrolytic method for the reduction of iron, by which the stable metal can be produced at one quarter the cost of the blast furnace. This would, of course, be a great blessing to us if true, but needs a great deal of confirmation.

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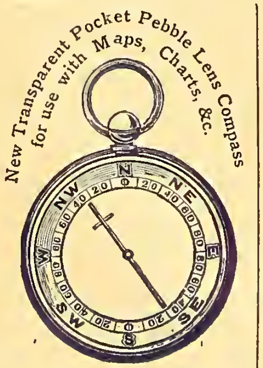
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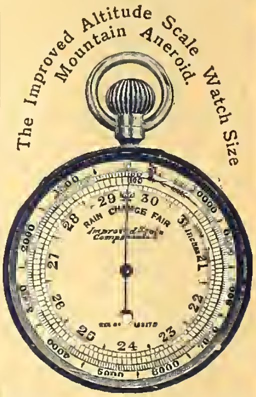
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ENTRE NOUS
HARPOCRATES.

BY THE EDITOR.

WHAT IS FALSE IMPRISONMENT?

WE often join in Patty Morgan's verdict, "Serves her right," without asking what we should do in the cases in question. There are very few of us probably who would not have done exactly as Mr. Lewis, the well-known Bond-street jeweler, did if placed in his position under the circumstances now to be narrated, yet six months after he finds himself mulcted in £25 damages and the cost of a Queen's Bench prosecution! The facts were these: Early this year Mr. Lewis repeatedly had things stolen from a third floor room over his shop; on April 18th last someone knocked at the door of this upper chamber and ultimately got in and there inquired for a Mr. Grant. But the visitor was upon that unpleasant errand of money collecting, and probably disbelieved the assertion that Mr. Grant did not live there, as he had been sent to that address to collect some money for a Brighton jeweler. Just exactly what passed between Mr. Lewis and the collector cannot now be said; the former probably had his vanished articles in his mind, while the latter was thinking about a would-not-be-seen debtor, so that no doubt neither was over-courteous one to the other. Ultimately the jeweler sent for a policeman, and the collector gave his name and address as living in Hanover-square. Before taking any further steps Lewis did what even the most thoughtful and careful of us would probably have done—*i.e.*, sent over the way to see if the name and address given were right. Upon the return of the assistant and the information that they were correct, the constable was sent away; and further expostulation was made against the mysterious air assumed by the collector, who finally left, and one would have thought the thing at an end. But no; an action now follows in the Court of Queen's Bench for false imprisonment, in detaining the collector while the assistant went to ascertain if the name and address given were correct; and although there was contradictory evidence as to whether the plaintiff was pushed into the room and detained there, as to whether he for a time refused to show the letter from the Brighton jeweler or to give his own address, and as to how long the whole affair lasted, the jury returned a verdict of £25 damages!! If this is law we must say we would rather have a little common sense. We should have thought that if a man enters a house, it is his duty to satisfy the owner of his *bona fides*, and if the course adopted in so doing involves a waste of time he himself should bear it. Bearing in mind the cases we have known, and how many felonies have been stopped under similar circumstances, we cannot help feeling the verdict is one against which appeal should be made.

A NEW GEM: CHRYSOPAL.

There can be no denying that the success of the chrysoprase is an example of what can be done by advertising. We know the exact circumstances under which this thing was put forward, and how by pushing it to the front it became the gem of the hour; and it has retained a popularity which has rarely, if ever, been eclipsed. It still figures largely in all West End stocks, and finds a fair sale, and will, no doubt, come in for a good share of the Christmas trade. When, however, we see things marked up "real chrysoprase" in every little fancy shop or hosier's, it begins to look as though it were being a bit overdone, and thoughtful business men are turning their minds to what would be the next best stone to try and run. Several have suggested "golden chrysoprase" as a claimant; but we need not remark again that the name chrysoprase is applied to a special apple-green variety of chalcedony colored by oxide of nickel, of which there may be nearly 3 per cent., and occurring in Silesia. Specimens of the green gem before us are from Kosemütz, Glasendorf, and Baumgarten, near Frankestein, and to speak of golden chrysoprase is equivalent to speaking of a black white cat. This chrysoprase was unknown to the ancients, and has nothing whatever to do with the chrysopasius of Pliny. It was that great analyst Klaproth who first discovered it to contain water, to which was ascribed its peculiar translucency, which borders upon semi-transparency. We have always considered chrysoprase to be composed of a mixture of chalcedony and opal, colored by oxide of nickel, although iron is frequently present, as are traces of alumina and lime. This idea has recently been confirmed by specimens which have arrived in this country from Silesia, in which chrysoprase passes into the green opal. Both these varieties of quartz occur in veins running through the serpentine, the chalcedonic form being known as chrysoprase. It has occurred to us that the gem chrysopal, if it could be obtained in sufficient quantities, would form a worthy successor of the chrysoprase, as its properties cannot be simulated by dyed common chalcedony, nor would any other mineral as widely dissimilar as jade be marked up "real chrysopal," as is the case with chrysoprase. The chrysopal is, as its name implies, an *opal*, and as such is far more transparent than the clearest variety of chalcedony. In trying to make students realise the structure of chalcedony we once used the term crypto-granular,—*i.e.*, that the molecules of which it is composed are almost visible to the eye, which gives it a horny appearance. Now, with opal—and hence chrysopal—we may *imagine* these components of the mass to be much smaller, and hence the gem approaches nearer to a glass in appearance. Its surface-lustre is therefore much greater, which, coupled with its semi-transparency, immediately improves its appearance, and gives it a beauty one expects to find in real gems. Although this stone occurs in veins to be measured by feet, it is only here and there that little pieces sufficiently free from flaws and deep enough in hue can be found, so that it will never become common, and the localities of its occurrence, so far as we are aware, are limited to Silesia. Sometimes the name Prase-opal (leek-opal) is given to this gem; but it is not justifiable. Prase already means a leek-green variety of both crystalline and chalcedonic quartz. We do not for a moment maintain that the name chrysoprase was a happy one, but by the laws of priority it must stand.

ANOTHER CLAIMANT—THE GOLDEN OPAL.

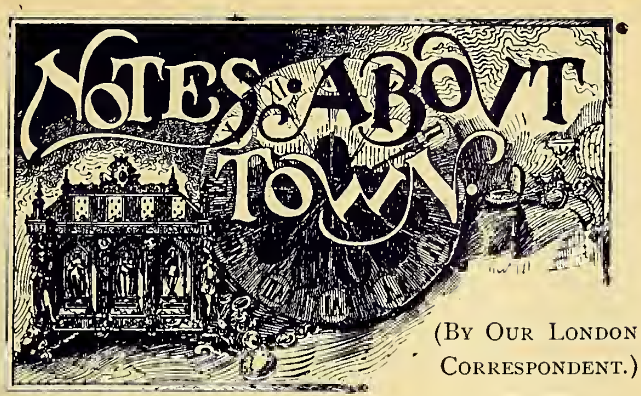
Although the "Golden Chrysoprase" would, in all probability, be nothing more than a yellow cornelian or a dyed chalcedony, there is a lovely opal found in Hungary of a golden yellow hue, which for translucency and brilliancy is unapproached, and no chemical process can transform chalcedony into anything approaching it. It is extremely translucent, indeed almost transparent, and when cut *en cabochon* could scarcely be distinguished from a chrysoberyl cat's-eye, except for the ray of the latter. Some of the specimens of this gem now before us pass off towards the translucency of the chalcedony, but the fine examples, to our mind, have a richness not approached by any other gem, except, perhaps, the chrysoberyl. We have therefore the greatest confidence in recommending this gem to the attention of the trade and to those who would be leaders of fashion.

THE NEW ROSE GARNETS.

Amongst the novelties at the Paris Exhibition were some specimens of pink garnets said to have come from Mexico, and attention being called to them it was discovered that the gems were familiar to many mineralogists. Professor Foote, the celebrated Philadelphia mineralogist, has since brought and sent over numerous specimens of this beautiful mineral to this country and lately quite a number of them have been on the market. After the Paris Exposition William Niven, an enterprising New York mineralogist, set out with the object of locating these beautiful objects, and ascertaining if they were to be had in any quantity. It was only after several months' search that his efforts were crowned with success. The locality is situated at Xalostoc, Mexico, ten miles from a railway; but having reached Vera Cruz they are shipped by steamer to New York. The gems occur in a granular silicious limestone, very like the very finest textured loaf sugar in appearance, but of a rather more ashy hue. The rock is sawn up into slabs and used for ornamental purposes, the pieces containing the most transparent gems being put on one side for jewelry purposes. Usually the garnets, although extremely beautiful for ornamental purposes, are not sufficiently clear to be used as gems. Scattered also through the matrix are large quantities of vesuvianite, of from yellowish-green to bright yellow. The garnets vary in size up to about an inch and a half in diameter; those in our possession are almost invariably pentagonal-dodecahedra, similar to Fig. 20 in the supplement to our last issue. Another feature of these gems is that they frequently occur zoned; a band of yellow surrounded by a band of pink. Sometimes these are differences of hue only, as this division of the garnets occurs in a number of colors, but at others the centre is vesuvianite and the outside garnet. Although we have numerous examples of these two gems alternately, none are so beautiful as these Mexican gossularites.

More Street Clocks in London.—Several of the papers keep up the agitation for more street clocks in London, to be erected by the County Council. Some advocate from one point, others from another. The temperance advocate maintains that it would dispense with the necessity of a man going into a public-house to see the time.

Change of Title.—The Geneva Optical Co. have petitioned the Supreme Court to be allowed to change their name and style to the Standard Optical Co.



(By Our London Correspondent.)

During the past month there has been the usual grumbling, although, all things considered, trade has made a slight change for the better. Retailers report a slight increase of business, which has encouraged them to buy a little, in the hopes of Christmas trade. Several manufacturers have been busily engaged on novelties, which it is to be hoped will be favorably received.

The Christmas displays have hardly made their appearance, in the generality of houses; but with the leaders of that remarkable epidemic we call fashion, it is easy to see what it is they intend to try and run. The chief feature of the Christmas trade or the season's novelties will be connected with transparent enamel work, the general tendency of which is towards the old French style and coloring. The soft delicate hues suggested by natural flowers, the dog-rose, the French violet, and similar sort of things, have now been dethroned, and in their places we find cherry reds, carmines, purple-lakes, ultramarine, and very dark green enamels, sharply contrasted, and extremely showy, with the zig-zag engraving of the bright gold back showing through the transparent enamel.

Bracelets of enamel links of various patterns are being shown and sold, a favorite one being what is known as a figure of eight. They are fastened by a heart-shape locket, which is divided obliquely across its centre, one half being, say, carmine, and the other ultramarine or dark green.

The same heart, rather smaller, surrounded by a row of pearls or diamonds upon an expanding wire, is a claimant for the honor of the bracelet of the season. The same pattern is carried out in chrysoprase, or colored gems.

The chief feature of the season must certainly be the colored stones. One Bond-street house has a window full of nothing else. Yet I have heard the proprietor contemptuously toss on one side all these things, but being a good business man, he naturally subordinates his predilections to public taste.

In few things has enamel been introduced with such remarkable effect as with pearl necklaces. Single rows of pearls are separated every ten or a dozen beads by an enamel ball, either dark blue or cherry red. The effect of the contrast of the resinous lustre of the enamel with the quiet soft surface of the pearl produces an effect never before realised.

Festoon pearl necklaces are also being shown, of ten or twelve rows; these are gathered together by either a single pearl or a diamond ornament of some sort, either a plain cluster or a more ornamental scroll. More often, perhaps, the new enamel work is introduced, frequently with, say, a raised brilliant centre, followed by a ground of ultramarine, through which can be seen the outward radiating engraving of the gold below, this being edged by a row of grain set brilliants.

Another article made in this enamel is a thin elongated crescent, with the surface highly convex and with pin-pointed stars rising through the enamel. This article is one of the most fashionable of the hour; it is usually accompanied by some small object either at one of its horns or embracing it near the centre. The former is usually a star, a flower, or insect; and the latter a scroll or small wreath.

The majority of these new enamels, especially when accompanied by gems, which are usually grain set, call to mind the old French things of a century or a century and a-half ago. Frequently, or, indeed, mostly, there are narrow rows of neutral greys or creams introduced between the colors or round the edges. Sometimes these are quite plain (and, of course, opaque), at others they are starred. Many of these articles are amongst the most artistic things we have ever had; although in others the effect is harsh and hard.

In keeping with the festooning and bunching of pearls, I see here and there introduced veritable pearl tassels of very large size. This fashion may suit the Indian taste, but I cannot say I admire it myself, and although they are shown in several windows, I hope they will not become fashionable.

Long chains are being again brought into prominence. It is curious that, coincidentally, other styles of attire are now fashionable which were in their glory when long chains were in before. But it is no longer the massive gold manacle, it is the delicate starred enamel cylinder, separated by the queenly pearl. The chains, for which someone has suggested the name of the Duchess of York, are twisted once round the throat, upon which they lie close; then fall over the bust, and are picked up again and carried to the watch brooch on the chest.

These watch brooches too are very fashionable, some kind of extremely conventionalised bow being the favorite. These are often in diamonds, but enamels to match either the Duchess of York chain or the back of the watch are the most plentiful.

Miniatures are certainly dethroned this year; some few very nice ones are to be seen, but not a third of the number that could have been found this time last year. They still form a favorite for scent bottle tops and cuff links.

Speaking of links reminds me that one of the greatest luxuries in links, or rather solitaires, is now to be seen in the form of a tiny little gold watch no larger than a threepenny piece. The same little articles are worn singly, buttoned like a little stud in the lower back part of the glove, and gentlemen, not to be outdone by the fair sex, use them for studs. All must admit that the idea is extremely novel, and *ennui* never need exist while we have such ingenious business minds, but of course such a fashion would never receive much support.

There are a number of Christmas brooches to be seen; many are old familiar faces, but some are new; nothing of those I have seen struck me as being exceptionally good or novel, still, I suppose, there is yet a sale for this season-jewelry. One of the most poetic ideas I have noticed is a spray, against which the figures 1893 rest; a little bird is just flying away with the three and another replacing it with a four; the whole is executed in small diamonds. But I suppose more would look upon it and call it pretty or otherwise than would appreciate its meaning.

What a number of jeweled fans are to be seen! I noticed them directly after the Duke of York's wedding, but they are still on the increase. Many articles of the toilet, too, have their backs studded with semi-precious stones.

Turquoise still maintains its hold on public favor, and some magnificent gems are to be seen. A large number are in conical settings, and exhibited "as they are imported from Persia." I shrewdly suspect that some of the American turquoises are similarly mounted.

Owing to ladies once more parting their hair in the centre, I am told, single stars and ornaments are in greater demand. Most of the new patterns are more of the fly away design than the usual symmetrical star.

I noticed a pair of loose brilliants in a window the other day, which were set up in a way that made them very attractive. They were put into an ordinary earring case with a couple of holes to receive the stones, and the case was lined with medium blue velvet. Diverging rays were then pressed upon the velvet, which of course showed up very much lighter. It thus appeared as if the light was coming from the stones; and in the minute or two I stood near I heard several people express admiration of their great brilliancy.

Little safety brooches made of wire bent into the form of an initial are pleasing, saleable, and low-priced little novelties that several jewelers are running.

Silver goods are well to the front, with lots of new ideas to tempt both jeweler and customer. A late arrival is in the form of a chatelaine stamp box; it, however, contains a miniature Johnson's Dictionary beautifully, though almost microscopically, printed, gilt edged, and bound. A new cork for a wine bottle is in the form of an old-fashioned candle extinguisher. Silver candlesticks of Corinthian pattern are often now to be seen, with ivory columns.

Gilt overlay pierced work is very much to the front, both for glass, tortoiseshell, leather, and wood; and seeing that bowls, baskets, flower vases, and such a host of other things are now being pierced, I hope this lovely, although almost lost, art will be revived. I hear there is a fad or shall I say fashion?—now setting in for collecting scent bottles, and that some ladies have already spent £4,000 to £5,000 on these lovely little articles.

MARKETS.

Board of Trade Returns.

Imports.—*Clocks.*—The total value of clocks imported during October, 1893, was estimated at £37,591, about £5,500 less than the corresponding period of last year. *Watches.*—The total value of watches imported during October, 1893, was estimated at £64,963, being £3,900 more than the corresponding month last year.

Exports.—The plated and gilt ware exported during October, 1893, was estimated at £32,289, nearly £3,000 less than the corresponding period of last year.

Diamonds.

London, November 28th.—Trade undoubtedly gets harder and harder to do, and profits get less and less. Indeed, when we realise the fact that 40s., and sometimes 45s., is being paid for rough, and how large a portion of the gems will not cut at all, and the great waste in those that are cut, one sees in a moment's reflection that ordinary mellée, to pay everybody a living profit, ought to stand at somewhere about £8. Yet during the month I have seen parcels of really good usable stuff change hands af £5 15s. to £6. Of course, if anything decent is wanted, £8 is a fair quotation, but still there are a number of traders about who are glad to clear out large parcels at the before mentioned figure. I cannot hear that the Christmas trade has made any great difference in business. There were a few foreigners in the market during the month, but Americans do not report very favorably of the World's Fair sales.

Amsterdam, November 26th.—There has been no great change in our market since last month. Buyers, though not numerous in quantities, from England, Germany, and Italy have paid us a visit, as they usually do at this time of the year, but through the general badness of trade expensive large stuff has not sold so well. This, to some extent, is better, as the small stones take longer in proportion to cut, and so keep mills going longer. I hear the North Americans are very, dissatisfied with the amount of their goods sold at the World's Fair, and will have to clear off what they have on hand before making fresh purchases. Rough and Kopjes have met with a very fair demand and sale, but the rough is too high for anyone to do anything with.

Paris, November 26th.—I cannot say that our diamond trade during the month has been brilliant, but it has not been much, if anything, below the average, which, I suppose, is saying a good deal as things go. A good impetus to the jewelers' trade is found in the ever increasing fashion of New Year present-giving. Everyone now gives presents at this season, and for this purpose jewelry is considered the most appropriate.

Silver.

Despite the action of American legislation and the general depression of the metal market, the oriental demands for the precious white metal have not only prevented its fall but actually occasioned a slight rise, so that all through the month there has been a small upward tendency. Opening at $31\frac{1}{2}$d., it has been creeping gently along till it has reached $32\frac{3}{4}$d. Then after a fall to $32\frac{1}{4}$d. it again rose to $32\frac{3}{8}$d.

Tin.

The market for the blue metal has been in a very depressed condition, dwindling down the whole of the month. Opening at £77 12s. 6d., it slipped, slid, and fell during the whole of the month, and now stands at £75 5s.

Copper.

There has not been the downward tendency in the red metal characteristic of the foregoing; the changes being small and of a choppy nature, the minimum being £42 3s. 9d. and the maximum 10s. more.

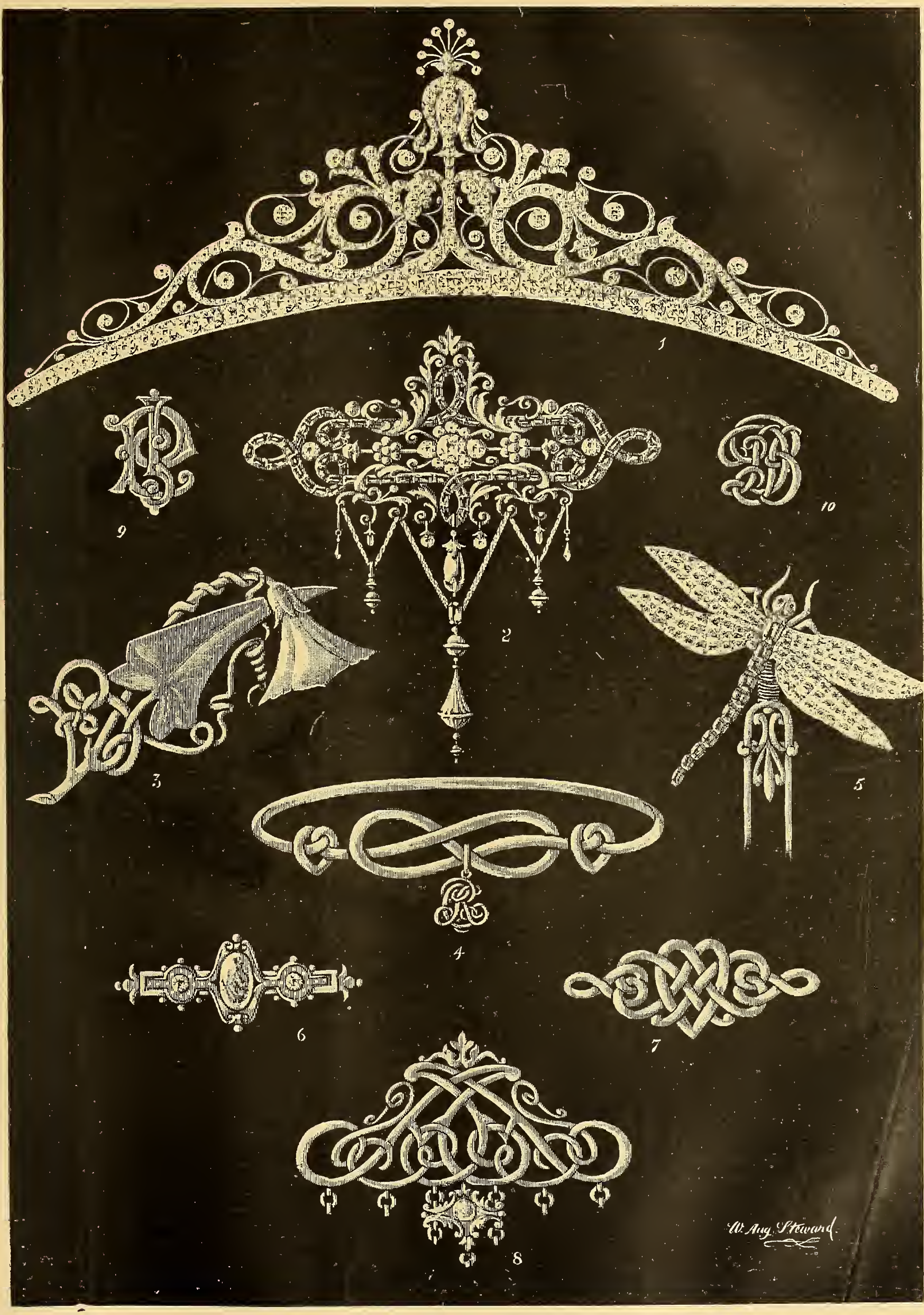
Spelter.

Spelter has been remarkably constant on the whole; opening at £16 18s. 9d., it passed next day to £17 13s., at which price it has stood practically all the month, and is now only 1s. 3d. more.

Quicksilver.

The mobile metal has remained quiet at £6 7s. 6d.

Electric Distribution of Time.—Henri Campiche, of Geneva, has recently been visiting the Metropolis with a view of introducing his system of electric time regulation and distribution. In his method a pendulum, beating seconds, operates a pawl which rotates a ratchet wheel of thirty teeth, making one revolution per minute. At one point in its revolution this wheel completes an electric circuit, and energises an electro-magnet. From the armature of this magnet a long tail-piece stretches towards the pendulum, which at the point carries a spring. At the moment the circuit is completed the armature gives an impulse to the pendulum, the shock being softened by the interposition of the spring between the pendulum and the armature. The same current can be distributed to a number of clocks, each provided with an electro-magnet and a few wheels to operate the hands.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W. Aug. Steward

SLEEVE LINKS.

Of late years the making of sleeve links has seemed to have attracted a large amount of attention on the part of the manufacturing jewelers. We do not see why this should be so. Even granting a movement in favor of clean shirts and stiff cuffs amongst a more extended class, we might yet suppose that the vast quantities which have lately been turned out would have sufficed to fill every possible want. It seems, however, as though there were still room for more, as the demand for links continues in spite of the enormous output; and we are equally confident in asserting that the supply still keeps abreast of, if not in front of, the demand.

Taken as a whole, the sleeve link trade is a good steady branch, subject probably to fewer and less violent fluctuations than many other branches of the jeweler's art, and having a greater backbone, as it were, of "bread and cheese" goods than any other department except gentlemen's chains. There is not, as a rule, much room for the introduction of novelties in goods for gentlemen's wear. Nothing beyond chasing and engraving has ever found favor as a matter of surface decoration. Any raised ornamentation, which adds anything either to the thickness or the roughness of the article, interferes with the ease with which it passes through the button holes, and although various built up patterns have at times been brought before the wholesale trade, they have never been successful with the buying public. In actual wear smoothness and easiness of insertion are ever essential elements, and anything which tends to difficulty of buttoning or causes abrasion of the linen receives little appreciation from the wearer. Hence the only chance for the introduction of novelties rests with the shapes of the links; and since the introduction, some twelve years or so ago, by a well-known Birmingham firm, of the so-called "fancy patterns," little real alteration has been effected in these goods. Of these patterns the "torpedo" and the "dumbbell" took the immediate fancy of the buyers, and they have remained to this day far and away the chief favorites. This idea was speedily taken up by every link maker in the trade, and from metal gilt to eighteen carat it was worked to death. Every possible form was crowded into the service, from the plain straight "bar" to the most grotesque and eccentric combinations. Nothing was too absurd for use, and the homely rolling-pin, the cannon and ball, the pipe, the bottle, the lady's leg, and the skull and cross-bones, were brought out one after another. It is, however, hardly necessary to say that such jocosities did not run for long, and at the present time some twelve or eighteen of the plainer patterns, used in various combinations one with another, represent the bulk of the selling styles. The only other development worth mentioning is the tendency displayed within the last two or three years for the older form of oval (we use this term here in its popular and not in its actual meaning), which more nearly approached the round, to become more and more elongated. This is certainly an improvement, not only for convenience, but also for beauty, as the elliptic form is decidedly prettier and more pleasing than the older squat shapes. There is a grace of curve in many of the links produced to-day which those of, say, six years ago lacked. We have no desire to go into detail on the subject of the prices at which this class of goods is now being offered. There is, unfortunately, an effort on the part of some few makers—new to this portion of their business—to secure the trade by working at a loss. This style of doing business has been tried before without success, and we look upon the present effort as a flash in the pan, which will speedily work itself out, as have other flashes previously. If we remember rightly, the link trade was the very first, many years ago, to try to work at ridiculously low rates; and the failure of those early efforts foretells the fate of their later imitators. We have, within the last few months, had several cases where the endeavor to do this work at less than journeyman's wages has brought speedy ruin, and we trust these examples will not be lost on others following on in the same road. For this department of the jewelry trade, although apparently so simple and easy, is one requiring especial care and attention. It cannot be taken up at a moment's notice, just because some other branch is quiet, and forced to an immediately successful issue. Rather it requires long training, and exceptional knowledge and management, and can only be worked successfully by such means.

OUR SPECIAL PLATE.

1. Design for a tiara in diamonds. Pearls could be introduced with good effect at the end of the scrolls and at the top in the centre. Colored stones would also find suitable places in these positions, as well as in the conventionalised buds.

2. Design for brooch, in diamonds, colored gems, and enamel. The large frame member should be in step-cut rubies, emeralds, or sapphires. The stones in the centre should be diamonds, or diamonds and pearls, and the scrolls the new enamels. These latter should, of course, be made to harmonise in hue with the gems. The chain should be in dry color, and the pendants line enamelled.

3. Design in the latest novelty, the new fantastic wire pattern. For this style the convolvulus lends itself charmingly. An advantage is taken of the quaint and grotesque turnings of the tendrils to form a secret initial or entwined monogram.

4. Design for bracelet in the same novelty, forming a double heart united by a tie, from the latter of which is suspended a monogram.

5. Design for hairpin and brooch. The body of the dragonfly to be in colored gems, preferably emeralds, the head enamel, and the wings in diamonds.

6. Design for brooch, in the new or rather, perhaps, the old French enamel. The centre stone to be a cabochon cut; the two side gems preferably brilliants. The dots shown are the gold, as seen through the transparent enamel.

7. Design for brooch in the new wire twist. "The completely tied heart" can be finished either wet or dry color.

8. Design for brooch or chatelaine in the new wire twist, forming the reversed letter A A; to be finished either wet or dry color. If used for chatelaine the appendages should be in the new enamel.

9. Design for monogram, J P, suitable for engraving or enamelling.

10. Design for monogram, D B, in the new wire twist.

An Important Trade Catalogue.—Messrs. George Bendon and Co., 36 and 37, Ely-place, and 1, Charterhouse-street, E.C., have just completed a new catalogue, which, of its character, is one of the fullest we have ever seen. It is divided into two parts, one illustrating clocks, bronzes, musical boxes, aneroids, etc., in which the name of the firm does not appear, and gross prices are quoted, so that the volume can be shown to customers. The other part illustrates the optical department, and is intended for the use of the trade only. With reference to the former, such a collection of things beautiful, things novel, and things saleable has perhaps never been seen before; every branch of clock work, marble, bronze, gilt, polished brass, buhl, Vernis Martin, bracket, and grandfather's, including some magnificent specimens of the latter with Harrington tubes is in profusion, those remarkably showy German wood clocks and Vienna regulators coming in for a large share of the space. As to the second part, almost every article that the retail optician and instrument vendor is likely to want is well illustrated and priced. A special feature through the whole thing is the taking novelties and combinations of various things, such as clocks, aneroids, thermometers, and barometers, which occur in too great a number to describe. A visit to the spacious galleries would also be a treat to anyone desirous of seeing an extensive display of all these articles and numerous others which space forbids us to mention.

BIRMINGHAM
NOTES

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.*)

NOVEMBER has certainly failed this year to maintain its reputation as one of the three or four best months in the year for the jewelers. At the commencement of the month things were decidedly improving, but the abortive efforts to put an end to the coal strike were undoubtedly responsible for the week or ten days' deadlock which ensued. But I am pleased to say that the announcement of the settlement of the strike has not only been received with favor, but it has also been followed by a marked return of confidence, and things are once more assuming the briskness which is looked forward to at this time of the year. Travellers having business in the mining centres report that neither orders nor money are to be got; while matters are but little better in the great manufacturing centres of Yorkshire and Lancashire. The financial position still shows no change for the better, and accounts can only be obtained with the greatest difficulty. It is certain some alteration will have to be made in this respect, and the sooner factors recognise this fact the better it will be for themselves. More than one house at the present time is *openly* talked about solely on account of the mean expedients to which they are resorting in order to stave off their payments. In cases of genuine tightness, such as many of these must be, it would pay a great deal better to exercise a little confidence in the manufacturer and so put their solvency beyond question. The policy of evasion gives rise quite naturally to a policy of distrust, and so the creditor either holds off increasing his account or else, where possible, charges extra for his goods in order to pay for the increased credit.

I DON'T think anyone will consider the sentence in the Gilpin case excessive. As I mentioned in my October Notes, local opinion was largely in favor of the man, because it was well known that he had struggled hard to make a living, and also because people feel it wrong to punish the small bankrupt while the large one escapes. Still, if a prosecution is really necessary an exemplary sentence should be imposed. It is a mere waste of time and money to go to the trouble and annoyance of criminal proceedings to secure a sentence of six weeks on a man.

ONE thing the Gilpin case clearly illustrates, and that is the risk of giving credit to undischarged bankrupts. Mr. Clegg, the Sheffield Official Receiver, has confiscated the whole of the estate under the section of the Bankruptcy Act which deems any future acquisition of an undischarged bankrupt the property of the prime creditors. It is a severe lesson to the local creditors, but it will not be without its use if it teaches them greater caution in the future.

THE bills in connection with Messrs. Platnauer Bros.' arrangement have just been distributed, and I sincerely hope for the sake of all concerned that everything will now go off as smoothly as has been anticipated.

As I noted last month, the failure of F. J. Carter, of Vyse-street, turns out to be a serious matter. Goods have been pawned, books and invoices destroyed, and the business generally carried on in the most reckless manner. Since his commencement in business, Carter has managed to lose about £100 a month of his creditors' money, and the Official Receiver has publicly stated it to be one of the very worst cases he has ever known. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that the creditors have indignantly refused the offer of 8s. in the £ made by the debtor, and prefer to take the additional loss which will be involved in making the debtor a bankrupt, so that his affairs may be officially investigated.

THE local association has committed a great tactical error in this matter by trying to deprive Mr. Cotterill of the trusteeship which his efforts on behalf of the estate fully entitled him to. There is no reason to doubt Mr. Cotterill's ability to discharge the duties of the position he has obtained, and to have elected anyone else would have given no encouragement to people to act in a similar way in future. Undoubtedly the policy of monopoly is bad, whether aimed at by associations or individuals, and in this matter the association acted in opposition to *all* the principal creditors. They have, however, a chance left to redeem their prestige by gracefully acknowledging their mistake and using their undoubtedly great influence to assist the creditors in obtaining a thorough investigation, and in taking such further steps as may be warranted by it.

A VERY practical comment on my remarks last month concerning assay matters is to be found in the fact that out of the thirty-six members of the Board of Guardians of the Standard of Wrought Plate, as they are officially termed, only nine are actually engaged in the jewelry and plate trades, and on this small minority the members of the trade are obliged to depend for the protection of their interests. I have nothing to say against outsiders of known integrity being included in the Board if such is considered advisable in the interest of the public, but it is absurd that they should be in a proportion of three to one as against practical men who are supposed to know the requirements of their trade. It is unjust, too, that they should derive profit from an industry with which they have no legitimate connection and to which they are a decided incubus.

WHILE writing of these matters I may also remark on the utter supineness of the Guardians in everything unconnected with the collection and division of fees. At the present moment scores of makers are contravening the law by affixing metal pins and stems to hall-marked silver brooches and pins, and nine carat ones to fifteen and eighteen carat articles. This is clearly a case for the interference of the Guardians, or for what else are they appointed? yet they decline to take any steps in the matter, and leave any individual trader to perform one of the essential duties for which they are paid. I submit that this state of things is not merely unsatisfactory and prejudicial to the law-abiding manufacturer, but a direct violation of the terms under which the Guardians hold their position.

THIS question of the addition of inferior quality stems and pins to hall-marked goods gives rise to two very important points. First, what is to prevent these goods being sold at weight and fashion prices at the value indicated by the hall-mark? and secondly, what is to prevent the maker of sleeve links from putting inferior connections to his goods, inasmuch as they bear exactly the same relation to the link as does the pin to the brooch? Certainly a reform of this and kindred matters must and will be brought about.

THE old system of providing customers with parcels on approbation to exhibit in their shop windows during the

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

Christmas season seems to have finally died out. It was a great drain on the resources of the manufacturers, many of whom entirely denuded themselves of stock during the two or three weeks preceding Christmas. Of course, the results of such an abnormal rush were practically nil, since the little profit made was always more than absorbed in the cost of doing up the unsold goods for stock; and after giving the idea a very much longer trial than it deserved, makers at last came to the inevitable conclusion that the goods had much better remain in their safes. Last season there were comparatively few demands for parcels of this character, and so far no one seems disposed to try again this year; if they do, I hope manufacturers will give them a courteous and firm refusal.

The epidemic of influenza, which has been unprecedentedly severe in Birmingham, has wrought havoc this month amongst principals and employés. In one case two out of three members of a firm have been incapacitated at the same time, while the number of travellers and others who have been placed *hors de combat* is extraordinary.

Messrs. I. S. Greenberg and Co. have now got their new showrooms in Great Hampton-street into thorough order and will doubtless find them very remunerative during the coming season. This firm is naturally very proud of its new development, and claims that it is unique in the provinces. Certainly their display is very effective, and every credit is due to the enterprise they have exhibited.

I should have mentioned in my November Notes that Mr. William Westwood, the late assay master, is succeeded by his brother, Mr. Henry Westwood, who was associated with him as deputy assay master for a number of years.

It is announced that Mr. J. W. Tonks has consented to stand for the seat on the City Council which has just fallen vacant through the death of Councillor Whateley. Comment on the matter is needless, for Mr. Tonks' efforts in connection with the Jewelers' Association and the Art and Technical Schools are well known and appreciated by the entire trade.

The sustained high price of diamonds is causing great embarrassment to makers of high-class goods, who now have to pay as much per carat for their brilliants as they were formerly able to sell them for. The result is that sales of fine stuff are almost nil, and many manufacturers would be glad to convert their diamonds into cash at cost price. The effect has also been to force pearls and colored stones into notice again, and the demand for these is greatly on the increase.

Long experience as a die sinker and letter cutter enables Mr. Walter Middleton to advise his customers as to the description of labels, etc., best suited to various purposes. He makes for all trades, and must not be forgotten in the matter of jewelers' punches.

The Burma Ruby Mines.—The following remarkable letter was sent by Mr. E. W. Streeter to the *Times* of the 10th ult.:—"May I ask you to add to your interesting article on page seven of your issue of to-day respecting the Burma Ruby Mines Company that the last return of rubies found shows, for the fortnight ending October 4th, 680 carats, value Rs. 2,500, and for the fortnight ending October 17th, 570 carats, value Rs. 11,000. The last report is the first issued since the piercing of the rock, and now I think the shareholders may look forward to good times, if the natives do not rob too much. What with £5,000 per quarter coming in as rent from the native miners, and the increased quantity of rubies which will now be found, as the byon now reached is of superior quality, we certainly ought to be within reach of a dividend. I have never lost faith in this undertaking, and you will permit me to say, Sir, that my interest is a very large one. Trusting you will insert this, so that the shareholders may see there is good ground for hope at last."

THE CHICAGO AWARDS.

There is a very important paragraph from our American correspondent *re* the Chicago first awards and medals, from which it appears that a system has been adopted of awarding a medal for any good point, however small, and that a diploma accompanies it, which sets forth just what in the minds of the adjudicators was the noteworthy feature in the exhibit. Probably this is a very just system after all, but it is so different from that to which we have been accustomed that we confess we were led astray as to the real value of the award. Naturally, when one hears of a first award and the highest medal given, one concludes that the exhibitor has come out at the top of the tree, whereas it may refer to something of only a very minor importance. This will account for our not publishing the list of awards last month, as the official lists gave no classification, and we were expecting a list in order of merit. We have already referred to the English houses who took prizes, and now give those of next most interest to us, viz., the Swiss, amongst whom will be noticed several names well-known throughout the English trade.

Watch Manufacturers:—

Ainé, Fd. Julian, Neuveville.
Bachmann, L., Geneva.
Baume, Alcide, Les Bois Canton, Berne.
Borel & Courvoisier, Neuchatel.
Borgel, F., Geneva.
Brunner-Gabus, P., Locle.
Clémence, Buerret-Eugène, Chaux de Fonds.
Dégallier, C., Geneva.
Didisheim, Albert, Frères, St. Imier.
Didisheim, Maurice, Chaux de Fonds.
Doret, Paul Mathey, Gindrat Delachoux, Chaux de Fonds.
Droz & Cie., St. Imier.
Francillion, Francis & Cie., St. Imier.
Graizely, Arthur, Ferriera.
Guillaume, Piquet, & Cie., Sentier.
Jacoby & Cie., Geneva.
Jeanneret & Frères, St. Imier.
Jeanneret & Kocher, Chaux de Fonds.
Jeannot Fils, Les Brenets.
Jurgensen, J. Alfred, Locle.
Klingelfus Frères, Basle.
Licoultre, Marius, Geneva.
Leresche, Goylay & Fils, Geneva.
Meuri, Ch. C., Chaux de Fonds.
Nardin, Paul D., Locle.
Pierrenoud, Z., & Fils, Chaux de Fonds.
Redard & Fils, Geneva.
Weill & Cie., Chaux de Fonds.
Wuilleumier Frères, Renan.
Zentler Frères, Geneva.

Mainsprings:—

Herzog, A., Geneva.
Milliet, C. A., Geneva.
Perrett, Ulysse, Renan.
Schweingruber, Chr., St. Imier.

Hairsprings:—

Bæhni & Cie., Bienne.
Dufaux, Ch., Geneva.
Guye, P., & Cie., Geneva.

Watch Dials:—

Boulanger, Maillard, & Cie., Geneva.
Moré & Méroz, Geneva.
Wyss, J., Fils., Chaux de Fonds. Also for enamelled articles.

Watch Hands:—

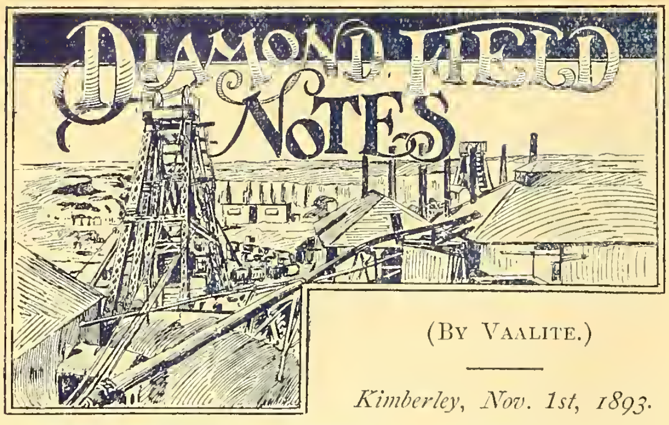
Leisenheimer, C. & E., Frères, Geneva.
Richard Frères, Chaux de Fonds.
Wagnon Frères, Geneva.

Jewel Hole Stones:—

Junod, L. E., Lucens.

Files and Tools:—

Borloz & Noguet-Borloz, Vallorbes.
Grobet Frères, Vallorbes.
Servet, J. Marc, Geneva.
Vautier Fils, Geneva.



(BY VAALITE.)

Kimberley, Nov. 1st, 1893.

YOUR readers would naturally imagine that we are all war out here just now, but we are doing something else besides. No doubt there are periods in every great man's history in which he is best abused, and a wrong and corrupt meaning assigned to every one of his actions by a large portion of the community. The Premier, Cecil Rhodes, is now passing through that period, and there is probably no man with more on his shoulders at the present moment than he. Despite all this, things are being managed at the offices of the Combine with all that astute policy which has elevated a worked out industry into the greatest financial concern that ever existed. Those who know most of the utterly hopeless state into which the diamond mines had fallen under the working of claim holders, how falls of reef occurred one after the other, until the mines were absolutely choked up, and impossible of ever being worked again, unless some gigantic combine could be effected to work the whole thing on absolute mining principles, would be the first to admit the salvation effected by Rhodes's great conception. Without that diamond mining would have dwindled down to practically nil ; and how different the world of the jeweler would now be from what it is cannot be well imagined.

The De Beers have also been grumbled at sorely for their investment of £100,000 in the fate of the Chartered Company in 1892, but Rhodes is a "public-spirited" man, and if he doesn't understand what is best, I don't know who does ; and I feel confident that both the nation and the diamond trade may rest quite safe in his hands. You have only to realise for a moment of what the major element of the diamond trade consists, and you could picture where it would be if some guiding hand was not at work in it. Jewelers no doubt regret the high quotations for rough, but its price is regulated in such a manner that disaster is not likely or even possible.

That no abatement in prices is likely in the immediate future both the Combine and Jagersfontein have given assurance. The latter maintain they will not sell under 40s. a carat under any circumstances, but rather more ; and the fact that the profits for September in the De Beers were less, is a sign that the market will not be overcrowded. It is right, however, to point out that this was only a paper deficit and was to be attributed to a greater storing up of blue. They have removed from the mine some 5,000,000 loads of floating reef, and the yield now reaches thirteen to fourteen carats per hundred loads, compared with nine and a-half two years ago.

The most important item connected with this month's Notes is certainly the discovery in the Jagersfontein mine of a stone of 234 carats in weight. It is reported by those who have seen it to be a pure white, and when it is remembered what lovely stones this mine usually furnishes one is tempted to expect to find in it one of the celebrated diamonds of the world. £5,000 was immediately offered for the gem, and refused. From this nothing much can be concluded, as £5,000 is a ridiculously small sum for a 234-carat stone, as £100,000 was refused for the Porter-Rhodes of only two-thirds this size. In addition to this the Jagersfontein produced one stone of eighty-four carats and another gem of thirty-two. Altogether, they are in luck's way. The output of the mine is also growing enormously. During October the blue ground will probably be increased, say 40,000 loads, and the diamonds will probably realise £35,000. The net profits have been over fourteen, eighteen and twenty-five thousand pounds respectively during the last three months, so that there is neither scarcity in the finding or selling of the precious sparklers.

I sent you word of the unfortunate financial condition into which the N. E. Bultfontein had sunk, but notwithstanding the present state of things, work is being continued, and that with marked and somewhat unexpected success, as nearly 3,000 carats a week are now being obtained, and the present manager believes he will be able to carry it up to four, or even five, thousand. He maintains the previous manager did not make the best of things, but washed a lot of unprofitable ground, which he intends to avoid.

Poor Augustine ! I hear sad accounts of it, and by the time this letter reaches you the London meeting will be held which will determine its fate. During September, I believe, they recovered some 130 carats from washing 2,446 loads, and in October 2,413 loads of tailings gave seventy-eight carats. But the tailings, I believe, were those left by the Kimberley mine on the Augustine's property, as the two mines are only a quarter of a mile from each other. I cannot help thinking that too much money has been spent in driving about in this mine, where the conditions are so entirely different from the other mines. Had the policy been successful and the blue struck we should have regarded it as a capital piece of mining engineering. As it is we can criticise adversely. Still one would like to know the origin of this yellow ground which covers nearly the whole three acres, and after all it might have been quite as successful to have followed this downward, despite what happened in Kimberley.

I am pleased to report that in the Monastery mine, from the blue at a depth of 86ft. the manager has some 200 carats of diamonds in hand, including a thirteen and a half carat stone. The yield is also phenomenal, averaging fourteen carats to the 100 loads. Recently, 540 loads gave 110 carats, an average of over twenty carats per load. It could not be expected that this yield could be maintained, but it is sufficient to show that we have in this mine a very rich property.

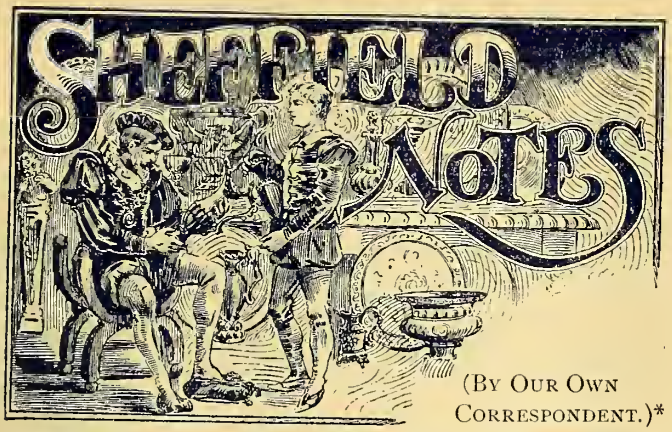
More new finds are still reported, and one of them at this phase looks better than any other mine at the same period. It appears that a farmer found on his ground near his house, about fifteen miles from Johannesburg, on the Bloemfontein road, evidences of the existence of a diamond mine, which so impressed him that he called in Messrs. Ward and Lockhart, of Premier fame, who, with all their experience, were so impressed that they forthwith gave the farmer £30,000 for the property.

A Mr. Murry is also creating a little sensation by the exhibition of a 50-carat stone, which he says he has got from a "mine" he has located on the Vaal. He is particular to state it is not an alluvial washing, but will not disclose anything further at present, and is being watched. In another case a little chap picked up a 25-carat sparkler when out with the herd, which he took home to his father, at Klein Vischgat, Edenburg. The father, thinking it might be a diamond, immediately shows it and gets a good customer for it, and prospecting follows.

* * *

The New Greenwich Telescope.—We have before made reference and given some details of the large telescope which has been in course of construction for the Royal Observatory, Greenwich. The casting of the 28in. lens was entrusted to Messrs. Chance Brothers, of Birmingham, and it has taken this firm nearly three years to attain the perfection requisite to meet their ideas. It is now finished and mounted in the telescope, and Sir Howard Grubb has expressed himself very satisfied up to the present. The instrument, which cost about £4,500, will be severely tested before the next annual report comes out, when we shall hear what the Astronomer Royal has to say about it. Such an instrument as this, or even a much larger one, has been greatly needed.

SHEFFIELD NOTES



(By Our Own Correspondent.)[*]

The 270th annual feast of the Cutlers' Company as it exists under its present charter of incorporation has been celebrated this year with all its accustomed splendor. The change instituted two years ago of holding the feast in November will probably now become permanent as being more convenient to all concerned. Since last year the interior of the Cutlers' Hall has been re-decorated in the most artistic manner under the superintendence of Mr. Hugh Stannus. The Master Cutler's guests included Earl Spencer, as representing her Majesty's Government, Lord Roberts, who fitly discharged the same function for the army, and the American Ambassador. For the rest the appointments of the year's banquet were equal in magnificence to any of its predecessors. The tables were covered with triumphs of the silversmith's art, and the music, as usual, was of the best kind; while the speeches in point of excellence could hardly be surpassed. It is hard to realise that all this has been evolved from the humble meetings of 200 years ago, when the cutlers of Hallamshire met to partake of "browis" and talk over the affairs of their craft.

Students of the School of Art old enough to remember the days of Young Mitchell and Godfrey Sykes will have a lively recollection of Robert Glassby—a prominent figure in the band of promising young men who attended the school at that time. Like many of his contemporaries in the school, Mr. Glassby has had a successful career, and at the time of his death, which occurred in August last year, he was engaged on a bust of the late Grand Duke of Hesse for the Royal Mausoleum. A movement has been set on foot among some of his old friends to place some memorial of him in the Mappin Art Gallery at Weston Park, among the subscribers to the fund being raised with that object being the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Wharncliffe, Earl Fitzwilliam, and the leading art patrons of the town. The object aimed at is to purchase one of Mr. Glassby's works and present it to the town, together with his bust, which latter has just been completed by his son, Mr. R. E. Glassby, upon whom the mantle of the father seems to have descended.

The clock and bells connected with the parish church have just undergone a thorough repair. The bells, which have done duty in the old tower for nearly a century, were cast in the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, London. They consist of a peal of twelve in the key of C, the tenor, which is the largest, weighing 41 cwt. The fittings having become worse for wear it has been found expedient to renew them. This has been done and the whole of the bells re-hung and put into good ringing order by Messrs. Mears and Stambank, of Whitechapel, London, at whose works the bells were originally cast. The clock and chimes have been in like manner attended to by Messrs. E. Rippen and Co., who have had charge of the clock ever since it was placed in the tower in 1867. The whole of the machinery of the clock has been thoroughly cleaned and overhauled, and great credit is due to both the firms named for the manner in which they have carried out the work.

It happens that the annual meeting of the School of Art this year is the fiftieth since the establishment of the school. Consequently the report read partook somewhat of a jubilee character, containing as it did a *resumé* of the history of the school. From the very commencement of its career the School of Design, as it was then called, took a foremost place among institutions of a similar character throughout the country, and began at once to affect the manufactures of the town. Its influence was first felt in the stove grate trade, which partook at an early period of that artistic character which it has ever since maintained. The silver trade followed in due course, and the present high state of excellence held by the silver and electro-plate goods of the town is gratefully acknowledged as being due to the influence of the School of Art. Originally a certain income was assured to the school from Government grants under a system which took into account the degree of efficiency maintained by the school. Just, however, when those grants had reached something like £700 a year they were suddenly withdrawn. This was a crisis in the history of the school, but the manufacturers of the town were fortunately equal to the occasion. At a meeting which was called to consider the altered state of affairs £7,000 was raised to pay off certain liabilities which had previously acted as a drag upon the usefulness of the institution. Increased annual subscriptions were also forthcoming, with the result that the transition period between the old system of Government grants and the new was tided over and the finances of the school put upon a firm basis. Scholarships have since been founded, and year by year the amount earned in grants has increased; the past year in this respect being the most successful since the establishment of the school fifty years ago.

It would seem as though we were coming back to the state of affairs that existed in the days of Solomon, when, as we are informed by his historian, "silver was nothing accounted of." I suppose, therefore, that possessors of "silver plate" will soon cease to take any special measures to secure its safety, but leave it to take its chance with their other earthly possessions. It is, perhaps, just as well, therefore, that what little value still attaches to articles made of silver should be further depreciated by artificial causes. From sundry rumors which reach this obscure corner of Yorkshire we gather that the one man agitation in favor of the abolition of hall-marking is not quite dead. I have the greatest respect for the opinion of London and Birmingham on this matter, but I submit that the wishes of men, many of whom employ nearly one thousand men each in the manufacture of silver and electro-plate, should go for something when this question comes up for final solution.

The pits have been re-opened and the miners have commenced to work. The battle will now have to be fought out before the Board of Conciliation to be formed under the terms of the settlement. The public at large takes small note of this. The main thing is that we shall now have coal and that the famished ironworkers who have been standing idle through no fault of their own will now be able to resume work. The privation on their part has been terrible, although public charity has been of late wholly devoted to their necessities. The colliers were gradually being let alone even by the most charitably disposed. The turn which events have taken certainly affects the outlook for Christmas. A week ago the prospect was gloomy in the extreme. Now, at any rate, we may be permitted to hope for the best.

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[*] We must not be understood as endorsing all, or necessarily any, of the views of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

As for the silver and electro-plate trades, answers to inquiries leave the impression that things might be a great deal worse. Trade is not so good as it was this time last year, still, on the whole a fair amount of business is being done. Some few firms, notably Round and Son, report that they are busy, by which is meant that the works are running full time and that all the hands are fully employed. This state of things is expected to last over Christmas, and although nothing in the shape of "bulling" is anticipated, silversmiths may yet consider themselves better off than most of the other staple trades of the town.

Coventry Notes.

(By Our Own Correspondent.)

The main topic of conversation here is the remarkable disclosures made at the recent meeting of the Rudge Cycle Co., Limited, where the chairman announced that upon a re-valuation of stock there was found a deficiency of over £31,256. This has dropped upon almost everyone as a "thunderbolt," as, with the dividends that have always been declared, all considered it a magnificent concern; moreover, in five years the entire capital of the company had been paid off, which was represented by £130,000 and £40,000 debentures.

Contrasted with this is a 10 per cent. dividend of the Humber and 7½ per cent. of the Quinton Cycle Co. But the first named company has been paying good dividends, and the discrepancy appears to lie in the valuation of the stock, which, in cycles as well as jewelry, is greatly influenced by fashion.

There is great stagnation amongst the jewel hole makers in the city, and at a recent meeting of the unemployed over one hundred attended. This meeting was called to decide on the best method of relieving the distress that exists amongst the members of this branch. The chairman said that owing to the widespread depression no attempts had been made to raise money outside their own trade, and what they wished to do was for masters and men to combine to distribute in the best manner they could the funds they had at their disposal.

About £35 had been subscribed, but the very best of feeling exists between employers and employés, and although the former have sufficient stocks to supply orders, they have promised that as soon as orders arrive they will set men on to execute them.

The report of the Committee on Technical Education is very gratifying; the students now number 562, and the class members 700. There are thirty subjects taught by a staff of twenty teachers, and Mr. Rotherham, the chairman, has a great deal to be proud of in the success of the institute. The successes in the various subjects also show a marked increase over last year, and although there are subjects not yet included in the list which would be of special interest and of value to the various branches of our trade, there are most of the indispensable ones represented.

I regret that I cannot report the watch trade generally in anything like a flourishing condition, yet I am certain it is in no worse state than many other branches of industry. It is true it is bad, but so is everything else, and so we must bear one another's burdens.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Value of Trade Journal Reviews.

Sir,—I was very pleased to notice a criticism on a book by Redman. It is a proverbial fact that "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread." I read through the book and quite endorse your reviewer's opinion. As to the Kohinoor, I myself wrote to Mr. Redman and pointed out his mistake before seeing your article. His defence was that he purchased the block ten years ago from Chambers, and had used it many times, but nobody had found fault with it, and then took refuge under the wing of Mr. Streeter, saying it must be right, as he had reviewed it and had had the Kohinoor in his hand. It speaks well for your journal, does the paragraph, as it shows clearly you are always on the alert, and these little matters are much better pointed out for the benefit of the trade generally. "Accuracy or nothing."

G. H.

Manufacturers' Samples.—Short Hours of Trading.

Sir,—It appears to me that some manufacturers make a *very* great mistake in not allowing samples of inexpensive goods to go out on approval. I have long wanted a small article, and manufacturers will neither let me nor a wholesale factor have samples, because it is a low priced thing. I cannot afford the time to travel over eighty miles to see it, but it is not proved that if I saw it I should not at once order a great quantity. You will, I think, agree with me that refusal to allow samples of small goods to go out to highly respectable people is a most unfortunate mistake, and clearly against manufacturing and trading.

For about forty-five years I have taken much interest in the shortening of hours of trading, when unduly prolonged; and have been honored by being made a vice-president of the Derby Half-holiday Association. I am a retail optician and surgical instrument maker, and also a watchmaker, jeweler, silversmith, etc. My hours are from nine in the morning to seven in the evening on four days in each week. My closing time is one on Wednesday and eight on Saturdays. The *advantages* of these hours over longer ones need no comment.

Yours sincerely,

Henry Steer, F. R. Hist. S., M.B.H.I., I.O.G.T.

7, The Arcade, Derby.

OBITUARY.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Samuel Fenton, of the firm of Fenton Brothers, silversmiths, South Moor Works, Sheffield, which took place at his residence, Thorn Bank, Spring Hill-road, on the 22nd ult. Mr. Fenton had been ill about three weeks, having taken a cold while on a journey to Edinburgh, and had since been confined to his bed. About 10.30, while being assisted by Mrs. Fenton to leave his bed, he suddenly expired. Mr. Fenton was the eldest son of the late Mr. John Fenton, founder of the firm of Fenton Bros., and was only in his fifty-first year. He was particularly well-known and highly respected throughout the kingdom.

We regret to say that Mr. Leopold Baer, jeweler, of Castle-street, Swansea, was taken ill on Sunday, the 5th ult., and was unable to appear as a witness in the case of Signor Moro; and on the following Tuesday succumbed to paralysis.

In the death of Jacob Eames, which occurred on the morning of the 15th ult., Bath has lost her oldest watchmaker, the deceased being eighty-one years of age. The deceased went to the City of Waters quite a young man, and by his conscientious and straightforward life acquired a first-class business and the respect of all the wide circle of friends who knew him.

The Trade of Japan.—Whilst so many markets are getting worse, and some failing altogether, it is most important to keep an eye on those which are improving, and amongst these there are few, if any, ahead of Japan. During the last twelve years their trade has *increased* certainly 200 per cent. But the Japs are a wily people and soon learn how to produce articles similar to those imported, so that now is the accepted time.

A New Tower Clock Wanted.—The North Britons of Irvine have had enough nuisance with their poor old worn out dark-faced hour recorder, and are agitating for a good one of modern construction, with illuminated dials.

Transatlantic Jottings.

(By Our New York Correspondent.)

Even the most patriotic and nation-proud amongst us must admit that we have been passing through an almost unprecedented crisis. During the first nine months of the year no less than 560 state and private banks have failed, of which only seventy-two have resumed business. Business all over the country has been thoroughly bad. What it would have been without the Exposition no one would like to say.

I am glad, however, to say that the latest returns from each of the States point hopefully to the future. "Things have seen their worst," say many, and each week we are now picking up a little, and we hope to make a fair fall and Christmas trade.

While our Thanksgiving Day is becoming less of a religious and more of a social institution, and the turkeys are more widely and bountifully distributed every year, I think we are making more of Christmas and Christmas trade.

The greatest beam of human intellect that was ever focussed on one spot—the World's Fair—is now a thing of the past and matter of history. Speaking generally, everyone is more than satisfied, the originators and guarantors have come out even better than many would have led them to expect, nor can it be looked upon as anything but a colossal success.

Although the Exposition is over it is not yet decided to demolish the buildings. The beautiful cases and fittings are being removed, many of the treasures go to art galleries and other places, and the cases are being shipped to the houses of their owners, or to one of the midwinter Expositions. In many cases the whole of the exhibits have been sold, and these will, of course, be forwarded to purchasers.

Already the exhibiting world is busy with preparations for the several midwinter exhibitions that are to be held. A large number of the Chicago exhibitors are so satisfied with the amount of business done at the World's Fair, that they are preparing new goods for the new expositions, as in many cases the whole of the Chicago exhibits were sold. The San Francisco buildings are pushing on, and strong hopes are entertained that the show will be opened on January 1st, 1894. The largest building will be that designed for the Manufactures and Liberal Arts. The building will measure 462 ft. by 237 ft., and will be of the Moorish style of architecture.

Some of the goods moved from the World's Fair unfortunately did not go into either of the channels above indicated. The cases of the Idaho Exhibit were opened, and the silver brick worth 1,000dol., and precious stones to the value of 7,000dol., were taken. This was done on a Sunday night.

I have heard some very strong remarks from jewelers regarding the Montana Exhibit, especially as our trade papers, without a single exception, have been preaching up all through the existence of wheelbarrow loads of sapphires in Montana. Yet when the blue gem was required to represent the stars in the flags, the gems employed were Oriental! This gives me an opportunity to ask you a question. As the Montana Company is an English concern it is not surprising that we never see any of its rubies and sapphires in our home markets; I should, however, like to know what is the state of the English market in relation to these gems—overglutted or otherwise? Either the English market must have an extraordinary consumption, or the assertions of the officers and journals must have been very unfounded!

One of the most remarkable things in connection with the World's Fair is the distribution of medals, and it has caused no end of misapprehension and dissatisfaction. Large numbers of people upon hearing they had a first prize and a medal have considered themselves at the top of the tree; instead of which the medal is of no value without the diploma which is to accompany it. There is to be no gold and silver medal, as is usually the case, but only one medal, and that of bronze. Suppose a half-a-dozen chain makers to be exhibiting, all might receive a medal. Yet upon receipt of the diploma it may become evident that number one gets a medal for his swivel and nothing else, number two for his superior method of fastening on swivels and bars, number three for general finish, and so on. It will thus be seen that, for the first time in the history of exhibitions, each exhibitor will have set forth upon his diploma the reason why the medal is bestowed.

Amongst the awards few, if any, will have to be more eulogistic than that which is presented to George F. Kunz, the King of Gemmologists. One of his most interesting collections was his library, which contained either the works themselves or their titles, of everything that is known to have been written on the jeweler's science. This was supplemented by a collection of portraits of mineralogists and geologists who have interested themselves more especially in this fascinating line of research.

This expert recently presented to the "Columbian Bell" Committee a handle for the bell rope, made of the Arizona meteorite, which furnished the diamonds from space, and was described in your journal shortly after its fall, and again referred to after the discovery of the second diamonds. Sixty-three nations contributed the material for this remarkable rope, that supplied by Queen Victoria being flax, which, it is said, was spun by her own hands. Little Ruby Kunz, a charming little girl of twelve summers, rang the bell first Chicago day.

The United States Watch Co. has placed in the market a new movement, which has been designated No. 79. The movement is an eighteen-size, has seventeen ruby jewels in gold settings, and is accurately adjusted. A double sunk dial completes the list of merits of the new timepiece, which is specially intended for railway and other services requiring accuracy.

A new Electric Clock Co. has been organised at Rittery, under the title of the Columbian Clock Co., with 250,000dol. capital.

The Prentiss Clock Improvement Co., of New York, has been incorporated in New Jersey with a capital of 200,000dol. This company has control of six patents, and will be mainly engaged in synchronising work, at any rate for the present. It also contemplates manufacturing self winding and tower clocks.

The latest thing in clock manufacture is that some enterprising Americans, A. H. Butler and Philip H. Wheeler, left San Francisco in August last with thirty-two tons of machinery for Japan, where they intend setting up a factory in either Tokio or Yokohama, employing cheap Japanese labor. Great things are spoken of, and some estimate that a colossal thing will result, employing about 10,000 men. With the cheapness of labor in that Kingdom and the readiness with which the Japs apply themselves to new industries it is quite possible that the dreams may be even exceeded. It may prove a success to the originators; but one would have thought the Britishers had set an example not likely to be followed by anyone with a spark of patriotism in them. Only a few years ago the first box of matches sent out by Britain nearly horrified the Japs, but what is the result? The wily Orientals are now able to send matches into London, while her match-girls in the East End are starving.

MAIDEN-LANE was recently the scene of the fire demon's ravages, and several jewelers were made to suffer. The loss of the Julius King Optical Co. is put at 10,000 dollars.

WITH the increase of popularity of silver for ornamental work your readers might like to hear that in addition to garters we have now silver-mounted stocking suspenders and umbrella fasteners, and very elaborate and handsome they are.

THE National Retail Jewelers' Association are unremitting in their zeal to sift out the guilty parties in the newspaper sales. You can well imagine the hardship it is upon retailers to see newspapers selling well-known watches at prices far below those at which they are retailed. The large companies agree to sell to jobbers only, hence the mystery how the papers get hold of the watches. Several cases have now been driven home, and it is to be hoped that the unfair trading will be stopped.

ANOTHER splendid institution of the association is the obtaining the signatures of firms who "do not retail," and "sell to the legitimate trade only." The list of these is published in their official organ; and if only the whole or the greater part of the retail trade in any country were to combine together, this objectionable practice might be stopped. It is obviously unfair for jobbers to take away customers from retailers.

"THERE is nothing new under the sun," and a corpse, exhumed in one country and taken to another, often does duty for a new-born babe. The old English trick of gum chewing and sticking the proceeds of the robbery under the counter for the accomplice to remove, has again been revived in the States, and has been styled new and ingenious.

Corkology.

WE do not wish to plagiarise; the elevation of that ingenious method by which the Cork Club raises funds in support of the Watch and Clockmakers' Pension Society has been explained and admired by us, but it was left for the public Press to elevate the method into a science. On the evening of the 17th ult. the members of this club held their second annual supper at the Oakley Arms, Goswell-road, E.C. There was a good attendance, and the musical arrangements were under the charge of Messrs. Glover and Reed, who furnished some excellent music, which was thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. Partridge proposed the toast of the club and its members, to which Mr. J. F. Newman replied, thanking the club for the valuable assistance it had rendered to the funds of the Pension Society. The club now numbers 500 members, by whom the Pension Funds have been increased some thirty guineas in the short space of two years. We wish them every success.

Portsmouth's New Mayor.—For centuries the name of Emanuel has existed in our trade, and over a hundred years ago a business was established in Ordnance-row, Portsea, which has for some time been in the hands of A. L. Emanuel, the new Mayor. All through his life this gentleman has been an extremely energetic man, and has done more for his co-religionists of a certain class than almost any other Jew. Not that he has been neglectful of other things. He has long been connected with a variety of offices, civil, educational, masonic, and athletic. About five years ago he married an Australian lady. He further enjoys the privilege of being "Jeweler to Her Majesty, the Duke of Edinburgh, and the Shah of Persia."

Liverpool's Present to the Duke and Duchess of York.

AMONGST the almost countless presents to the Duke and Duchess of York special mention ought to be made of that of the City of Liverpool. It contains upwards of 2,000 oz. of sterling metal, and is valued at £1,000. It consists of a centre-piece, two candelabra, and four side bowls, and is somewhat nautical in conception, symbolical of the city, and of the profession of the bridegroom. The centre-piece has an elongated plateau, from the centre of which rises an antique vessel supported on a pedestal, round which are grouped four excellently modelled figures of Pegasus. At either end of the vessel are two fine groups of figures, viz., Neptune and youthful Tritons, suggesting that the royal couple have embarked on life's voyage together, the youthful Tritons announcing the happy event by a fanfare on their shell horns, while Neptune guides the ship to a safe anchorage. Immediately in front of the vessel is a shield bearing the Duke and Duchess's arms in relief, side by side, and their joint monograms occupy a shield on the reverse side. Impanelled in a border round the hull of the vessel are the twelve signs of the zodiac, as indicating the mode by which ancient mariners steered their ships, while the Liver bird, or the crest of the city, forms an appropriate figure-head to the vessel. Upon the panels on the base are views of Liverpool, executed in bas-relief, and the centre one bearing the inscription:—"Presented to Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York, on the occasion of their marriage, July 6th, 1893, by the Citizens of Liverpool. Robert Durning Holt, Lord Mayor." The same elements are used for the ten-light candelabra, and also lend themselves admirably to the fern bowls, which are elongated at the ends into antique ship prows, with the Liver bird as figure-heads.

A New Lacquer.—Fletcher, Russel, and Co., Warrington, have sent us recently a small gas boiling-stove, which, apart from the fact that it is more ornamental than usual, presents no different appearance from any other. They, however, claim it has been treated by a process applicable to gold and silver and every description of coloring, which will insure it against not only atmospheric influences, but oxydisation from use. We have given the stove a firing without much effect, and should like to see gold and silver under their treatment.

Hall Marking Charges.—A movement is on foot for the unification of the Hall charges throughout the country. Recently Mr. Collings asked the President of the Board of Trade whether the rates charged for hall marking of silver goods in the assay offices of the towns of London, Birmingham, Sheffield, Chester, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dublin differed in such towns respectively; and whether he would cause a return to be made to the House of the charges made for the assaying and marking of gold and silver wares by the hall marking authorities of the above-named places with respect to plate manufactured in the United Kingdom and to that imported from abroad. Mr. Mundella replied that the rates charged at the various assay offices were regulated by various statutes and were not uniform, but expressed his willingness to acquiesce in the motion for a return of the rates if the honorable member desired it.

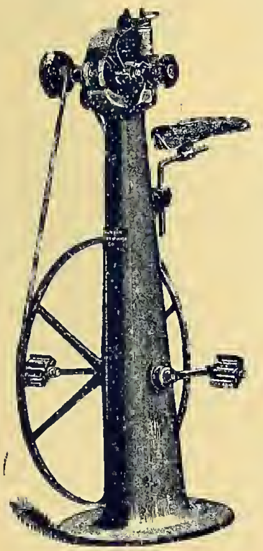
Montana Rubies and Sapphires.—Our American correspondent asks a question which we shall be glad if any of our readers can answer. Before the company was started and shortly afterwards beautiful varieties of sapphires of numerous hues were to be seen. But wait, we are now allowing our scientific tastes to get the upper hand of our business knowledge. We do not mean that these were commercially valuable. Even these, however, have got gradually less, and so far as we can find out, instead of existing by the barrow load fine rubies and sapphires can still be weighed by the fractions of a carat. At one time we were the only journal which was able to put the truth of this venture before the public. Now, however, we believe all are with us, and some use some very strong language. The price of the shares of this "the greatest gem discovery of modern times" are quoted only at rubbish prices, and that only occasionally.

London Loses its Palm for Smoke.—"See London and die" has long been the cry of some of our sanitary alarmists, but what would they think of some American cities? It is stated in one of the principal American trade journals that the Western jewelers suffer greatly by the damage done to their stocks by the sulphureous element, and that "one firm in Cleveland claim that their business is injured each year to the extent of at least 2,500dol. on account of the smoke." So widespread and disastrous is this agent that many jewelers are chary of handling the finest articles, as the goods displayed in their windows are never fit to put back into stock except at reduced prices. If such really were the actual facts we should sincerely sympathise with our cousins; but when the writer talks about its forming oxides we must conclude that it is probably only the American way of representing the fact that soft sulphureous coal is used, which naturally gives out sulphureous fumes, which we know act upon silver and gold.

Things New or Noteworthy

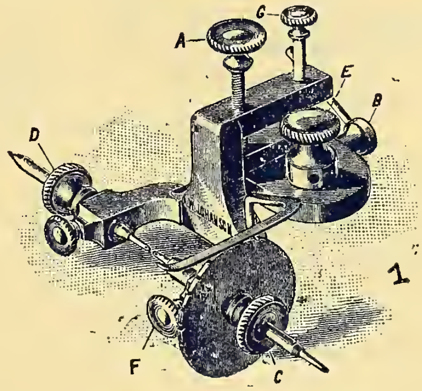
A Manual Dynamo for Plating.

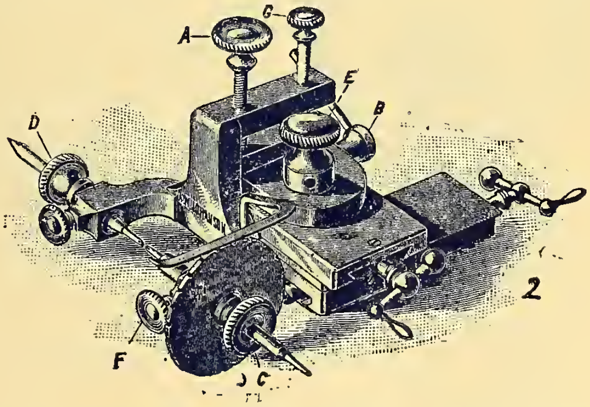
Our excellent contemporary, the *American Jeweler*, gives the following description and illustration of a new plating dynamo, that has many points of interest to those who are not so located as to make it convenient to get power. "It is mounted on a strong and graceful iron pedestal, which carries a grooved wheel fitted with ball bearing shaft and bicycle pedals, so that it is extremely light-running. A bicycle saddle furnishes a comfortable and easily adjusted seat for the operator. The armature is wound in two sections, in series with the field, and the shaft is strong, has long and nicely fitted bearings, and is fitted at either end for scratch brushes and buffs. The machine will give sixteen amperes of current at four volts, with a speed of 1,200 revolutions of the armature, and the relative sizes of the fly-wheel and armature pulley are calculated to give this speed with ease and comfort to the operator. This is equivalent to 128 one-gallon cells of gravity battery, coupled in thirty-two multiples of four in series, which would be an expensive battery and troublesome to take care of as compared to this dynamo. In detailed explanations as to its use, the makers show that in the machine the jewelers have a piece of apparatus that will plate all metals, gild work, color soldered jobs, and in fact do all the work that they are now obliged to send outside their shops, saving their customers' time and money, and at the same time making the acquaintance of a line of customers who, in the past, have traded elsewhere for various reasons. It will bring to the jeweler a new line of work that can be done during his leisure time, making a new source of revenue. With this machine a dozen knives and forks can be plated with a triple coating of silver in twenty minutes. A large ice pitcher can be plated in twenty-five minutes; two dozen spoons in twenty minutes; copper suitable to nickel in two minutes; gild a soldered job in five minutes; brass plate hinges and locks and knobs for three doors in thirty minutes; gild the inside of a sugar bowl or spoon holder in five minutes; or several mugs in same time; nickel a set of handle bars, cranks, and pedals in thirty minutes. This can all be done in the time stated above when work is ready to plate after cleaning. They furnish a descriptive circular relating to the care and operation of this machine, the cleaning of all kinds of work, and full instructions for plating with each machine. An ingenious feature of this arrangement is that the necessary operations of buffing, scratch-brushing, etc., are done while plating other work in the bath, thus utilising the power necessary for them to also produce the current. The only reason that the dynamo has not entirely displaced the battery in small shops has been the necessity, heretofore, of using power to run it, and now that the manufacturers of this machine have solved the difficulty, we have no doubt that there will be a general demand for it, as the business of plating is both pleasant and lucrative to those who engage in it. For further information, prices, etc., address the manufacturers, the Hanson and Van Winkle Company, Newark, N. J., and 35, S. Canal-street, Chicago."



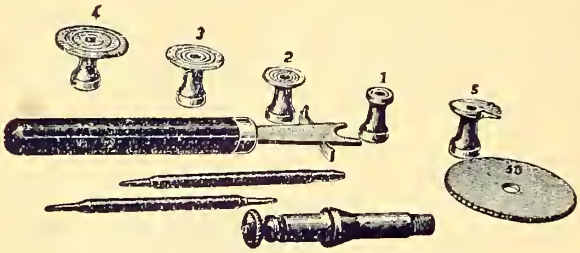
A New Rounding up Tool.

The same journal also gives the following description and figures of a new attachment for any watchmaker's lathe, whereby its possessor can cut and round up wheels in a workmanlike and speedy manner. "It is simple, strong, easily adjusted, and has a very wide range of work, comprising in fact about all that is necessary for wheel work in watches. It consists of a base plate adapted to be quickly and firmly attached to the tool part of the slide rest. The base plate carries a strong and graceful yoke, which is adjustable vertically by means of the screw *a*, and when adjusted it is clamped firmly in position by means of the screw *b*, in which position it remains immovable until the screw *b* is again loosened. At either end of the yoke are quills, fastened by set screws *f* in the ends of the yoke. Pump centres are placed in these quills and fastened in position by means of the clamping nuts *c* and *d*. These pump centres are four in number and centred at both ends, thus giving one male and seven female centres; the female centres are all crossed-drilled to allow of cleaning out easily and making sure that the ends of pivots do not butt against the centres. The right hand quill is fitted on its inner end to receive a circular rest for supporting the work while cutting or rounding up, and five of these rests, shown in Fig. 3, are furnished with the machine; four, of varying size, are circular, and are used as face plates for cementing the work in position for wheel cutting, etc.; and the other is cam or snail-shaped, to adjust it to various sizes of wheels in rounding up. To use for wheel cutting, insert the point or male centre in the quill at the left hand end of the yoke; then place the proper size face plate on the inner end of the right hand quill. Put on a little shellac and cement the wheel blank on the plate in the usual manner, centreing it by means of the male pump centre. Remove the nut *e* on the outer end of the right hand quill and put on the index plate you desire to use; replace nut and fasten the index firmly in position, with the spring stop in one of the notches of the index. Place the cutter arbor in the lathe, with its cutter in place, and bring the centre of the

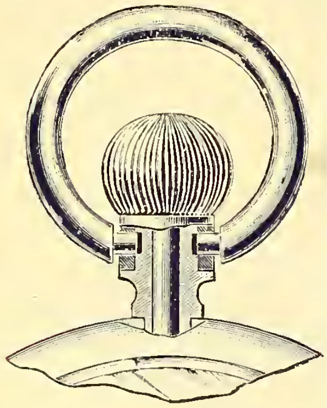




work exactly under the centre of the cutter. The wrench is provided with a small sight on the crosspiece, which is to be used to locate the centre of the cutter. One end of the crosspiece should be placed against the centre of the yoke, and the small sight should be right in front of the cutter. This is readily accomplished by means of the slides of the slide rest. A cutter arbor is sent with each machine and is used for both cutting and rounding up cutters. To use for rounding up, remove the index plate and insert the proper female centres; place the cam-shaped rest in the quill and turn it so that the teeth of the wheel will just clear the edge of the rest; insert the wheel and bring the pump centres up to support the pivots; then fasten the centres and bring the work into position, as before described. The machines are handsomely nickel-plated and are made to fit any lathe slide rest. One cutter arbor, five rests, four double pointed centres, wrench, and one index plate accompany each machine. For further particulars, address the manufacturer, A. W. Johanson, 326, Wells-street, Chicago.



A New Patent Watch Bow.



Next to chronographic arrangements, perhaps the bow and pendant show the greatest ingenuity and cleverness of contrivance to meet certain ends. There are numerous conditions necessary in an ideal bow, and in no case have all these been met in a manner to satisfy everyone. That a simple rigid pull out bow should exist to-day in a good gold chronometer or expensive complicated watch, is little short of a disgrace. Everyone has been painfully brought to face the fact that with the snatching of watches this part goes first. Hence have arisen two divisions in the principles of construction—first, those which aim at a rigid undetachable bow; and second, those which endeavor to make the bow revolve on the stem. The above illustration is an invention of a man whose name is well known in the trade, Mr. Lewis Donne, Birchin-lane, and from his great practical experience we may expect something specially good. This "patent safety undetachable watch bow pendant" has many features to recommend it, although, we must admit, they are not well shown in the illustration. The fact is, the arrangement is so simple that it alters the pendant very little, if at all, in appearance. It can be fitted to any watch. In this arrangement the collet revolves, but is brought into position by a spring, thus obviating the inconvenience of other revolving bows. Although it springs into position it has no ratchet or extra spring to get out of order; in fact, it is one of, if not the most simple bow ever brought out with any special claims, and [the wonder is it has not been used ages ago.

Tickets and Ticket Writing.

By the Editor.

(*Continued from page* 294.)

The Letter Q (*continued*).—In describing the use of the compasses in making the outline of this letter, it is not for one moment to be expected that in practice these assistants could be employed. Their use here is merely to teach the correct form in which letters should be made, and to furnish infallible tests of accuracy, the ideal to which all must aspire who would write type-hand correctly. Many of the points raised may appear unnecessary, but our experience with teaching and writing leads us to think the opposite. Commonplace as many of the rules may appear, we consider them indispensable. We have not illustrated monstrosities arising from non-adhesion to them as we did at the outset, but any deviation from them results in ugly malformations in one letter as much as another.

The Letter R.—Although the letter R is so much like the second letter in the alphabet in its symmetry and the construction of its two first members, in its third we are introduced to a kind of curve with which we have not before met. All remarks about B, the way the second member comes upon the first, how it ends in a straight line along our medium line, its graceful thickening and decreasing, hold good for the letter under consideration. The foot of the latter, however, is formed by a serif, curved, as is usual in such cases, on both sides. If these proportions be maintained we may proceed to the third member; if they are not, ugly malformations result. In proceeding with the third member, we commence as if we were going to make the third member of the letter B. First point off its centre on the right side of the lower right quaternion, and from this in a horizontal direction towards the left the thickness of a downstroke. When the outside line reaches the first dot, instead of springing inwards, as in the case of B, the line is continued in a downward direction, turning slightly to the right and passing beyond the rectangle in a small sharp upward curve. The inside line is next continued downwards, and after passing about two-thirds through the rectangle passes in a curve to the right, as shown in Fig. 43. The one great feature in this letter is the coincidence in a vertical plane of the inner and outer lines of the bottom member with those of the top; to obtain this, as will be seen, it is necessary to carry the recurved tail of the third member outside our rectangle. If this be not done, the bottom member is either much thinner than the one above it or appears altogether too big and too heavy. It will be noticed further in connection with this new member that the curves on the top side are not the same as those on the bottom. The former springs more obliquely to the right, while at the bottom the curve is much sharper, giving rise to the appearance of springing from the point of union towards the right hand bottom.

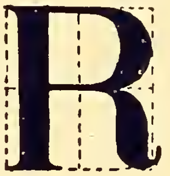


Fig. 43

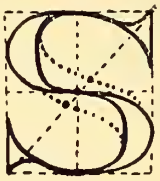


Fig. 44

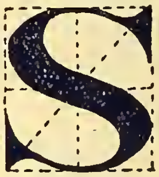


Fig. 45

The Letter S.—The letter S, for several reasons, is rather difficult to form, principally because it differs in its principles of construction from all the rest of the letters.

If, however, we try to realise in what these difficulties consist, the matter becomes simplified, and construction comparatively easy. The Phœnician form of the letter was similar to our **W.** Subsequently the western Greeks set it edge upwards, and ultimately robbed it of one of its members. The early Latins modified its angles and curves. If the law for regarding up strokes and cross lines always being thin and down strokes thick is maintained we should get a letter like Fig. 44. But this for many centuries has been considered bad form in the Roman alphabet, and is now only retained in German text. It may, perhaps, be as well to show the relation of the orthodox form of this letter to this figure. In its construction we add to our quartered rectangle a further bisection, from the bottom left to the top right corners, which will give us a further datum line, and thus help us to form our letter correctly. Beginning at the top left quarter make such a character as the curved member of P (in a sinister direction) and another similar one in the bottom right quarter; continue the top member in a curve struck from the centre till it reaches the outside line of the rectangle, about two-thirds of the way down towards the centre. Perform a corresponding operation for the lower member, and the form of the letter will begin to appear. The oblique line will now mark the position of the serif, both at the top and bottom, the union of which should be broken by the usual curve.

Now, from the intersections of the lines in the centre, dot off half the thickness of a downstroke along the oblique line towards both left and right. Join the two inside lines of each curve to the outside of the other by modifying curves passing through these dots, and the letter is finished, as shown in Fig. 45.

It should be remembered that to counteract an optical illusion (instances of which frequently occur) it is usual to make the lower curved member rather larger than the upper, a difference which, instead of giving a symmetry, imparts a solidity and pleasing form to the letter. Of this more will be said later on.

(To be continued.)

As Others See Us.

An Americanised Englishman has recently been paying a visit to the old country he left behind many years ago, and has written some very interesting accounts of his impressions to our giant contemporary, the *Keystone.* Under the heading of "Some Fine Tower Clocks" he says :—

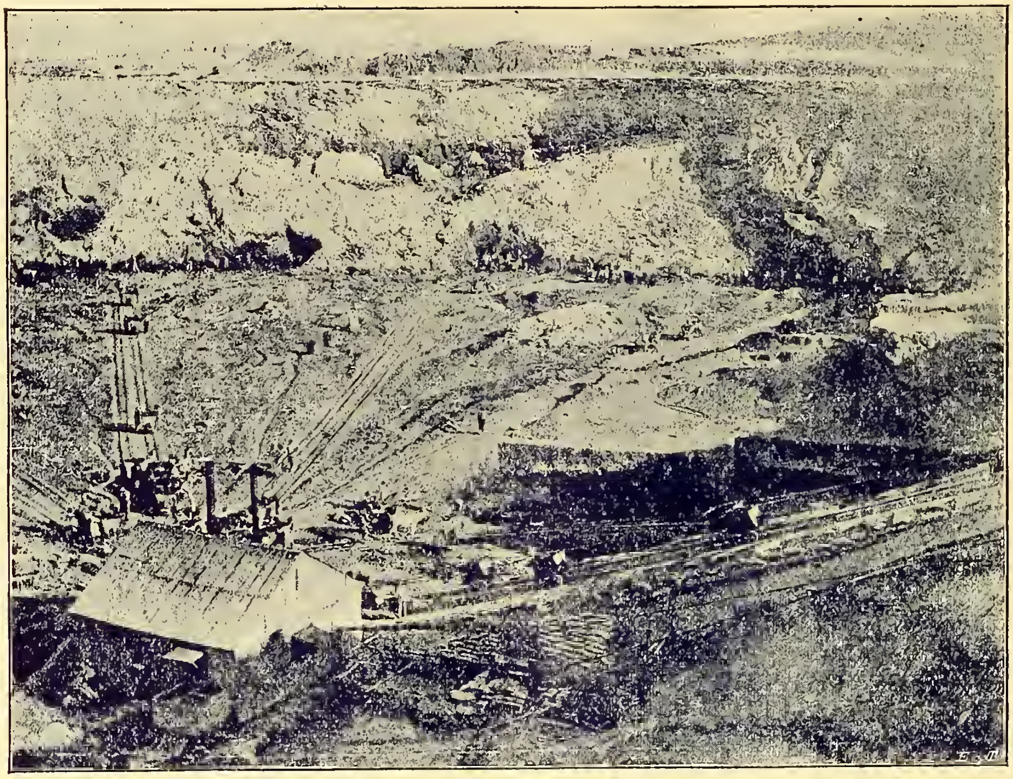
"Nearly all parish churches possess tower clocks, and some have fine chimes. At Liverpool we counted three illuminated dials from the deck of the *Campania.* The Manchester Town Hall also has a fine one, and we took great pleasure in hearing it chime and strike, often waiting ten minutes. We heard the finest chimes at Birmingham. Here we had retired shortly before midnight and lay pondering o'er the day's doings, when a clock commenced to play 'Highland Laddie,' and kept it up fully five minutes, then striking twelve on a heavy bell. Next day we found that this clock chimes every six hours, and each time a different tune. At both Birmingham and Sheffield many interesting items to jewelers can be found. At the former place (the Attleboro' of England) jewelry, novelties, clocks, and some watches are made; and at the latter, electro-plate and cutlery. Coventry (the City of Spires) is the seat of watchmaking, mostly of the cheaper grades. Manchester (cotton metropolis) is a great retail and wholesale centre, and the shop windows are a sight. This city reminded us very much of Chicago. Liverpool is a great seaport, and makes some watches and chronometers. London is the centre of gravity, however, and may be said to be the financial fulcrum of the world. The British and South Kensington Museums, National Gallery, electric railway under the City and the Thames, also the Metropolitan (underground) Railways, should be seen. Then pay a visit to Woolwich Arsenal and the famous observatory at Greenwich. From this place, at 1 p.m., a gun is fired, and a ball is dropped in nearly every town in England. The great Westminster clock and chimes at the Houses of Parliament, and which overlooks so many turbulent gatherings, should be seen. A description of it would make a letter in itself. This clock we visited years ago, when an apprentice, with a party from the British Horological Institute. Don't fail to get a permit and both hear and see the hour struck on the great bell 'Big Ben.' It can be heard, with favorable wind, for fully ten miles.

"We strolled through Clerkenwell, where the chamber system of watch manufacture exists (it cannot be said to live). We found the houses and shops just the same as they were twenty-two years ago—no change. When a boy, we carried work backward and forward to case-makers, dial, and hand-makers; also case-springers (sometimes called secret-springers), engravers, gilders, etc. We don't think there is a door-bell in this district but what we boys tried to pull out by the roots. In one small material and tool shop (George Mills') we found an assistant who remembered us as a boy. We were told that the business is not what it was in the old days, and the demand for fine London-made watches has almost ceased. They sent plenty of watches to the States before the war, also to the colonies, South America, and India, but not so many since the era of American factories. When a boy we had some of the old verge-finishers pointed out, but they are all dead and gone now, and their handiwork (with beautifully chased bridges) will soon only be found in the cabinets of collectors or museums. When entering the trade here, at the age of thirteen, the movements, consisting of plates and wheels, were made at Prescot. Chronographs and repeaters came from Switzerland, with the necessary actions fitted and in the grey. Then the various workmen took them in hand, going to dial-maker and case-maker, keyless mechanist and watch-finisher, who either pivoted the wheels (centre, third, and fourth), or had it done outside for five shillings, or one dollar and a quarter. Somewhere along the line the 'scapement was made and a balance supplied. Then all were rounded up and the examiner sprung it, also fitting the hands, shortening posts, etc., and then turned it over to the manufacturer with papers still pasted on the outside of cases to prevent scratches, the decoration of cases not being determined upon. Watches made in this way were sometimes, as the Psalmist once said, 'fearfully and wonderfully made,' the finisher blaming the 'scapement maker, and the examiner d——g the whole lot of them. The latter workman had to be a genius in topping and dressing, bumping and bending, but finally all the work was done and some of them got out to America. We draw a veil o'er the scene. The air thickens and the light darkens. You know the rest, for I think that you all have been there. As every watchmaker knows, many fine watches were turned out and are doing good service for their wearers; but if ever there was a miserable watch to repair, it is a cheap English fusee. Things were changing, however, before we left, and our shop produced only going-barrel, three-fourth plate work, strong, durable and accurate time-pieces, and quick train at that. They still were minus dust-bands, safety-pinions, pendant-set, and other modern improvements. The Americans, while not inventing the lever escapement, and being indebted to Mudge, Graham, etc., for principles, are entitled to the credit of a great many technical improvements, and above all for the system of factory and machine construction as far as it is applicable. The cylinder 'scape was an English invention, but was discarded by them and adopted by the Swiss. The latter nation never, it is said, succeeded in making a really practical lever, and the Americans did not fall into the mistakes that they made in the search for correct principles. There is another point that we are rapidly adopting from our foreign competitors, which is a move in the right direction, and that is compactness and size, without sacrificing the length of pinions, etc. Customers are tired of carrying bull's-eye watches, and want them smaller and thinner."

An Astronomical Clock.—An ingenious invention of A. W. Molesworth, F.R.A.S., was recently on view at the Royal Astronomical Society's Rooms, Burlington House. This is intended to show the apparent motion of the stars and planets across the heavens. A fixed horizontal brass rod represents the horizon, and the face of the clock revolves in the same time the earth turns upon its axis—viz., twenty-three hours, fifty-six minutes, four seconds, causing the heavens to appear to rise and set. It thus shows at a glance just where any celestial body is to be found at the moment; the real sky overhead will be found exactly to correspond with the revolving sky upon your mantelpiece. The annual apparent motion of the planets from west to east is shown by moveable pins, and there are separate movements of the clock for showing the revolutions of north and south polar stars. The clock is patented, both in this country and abroad, and is a very cheap article considering its use.

Diamonds and Gold of South Africa.

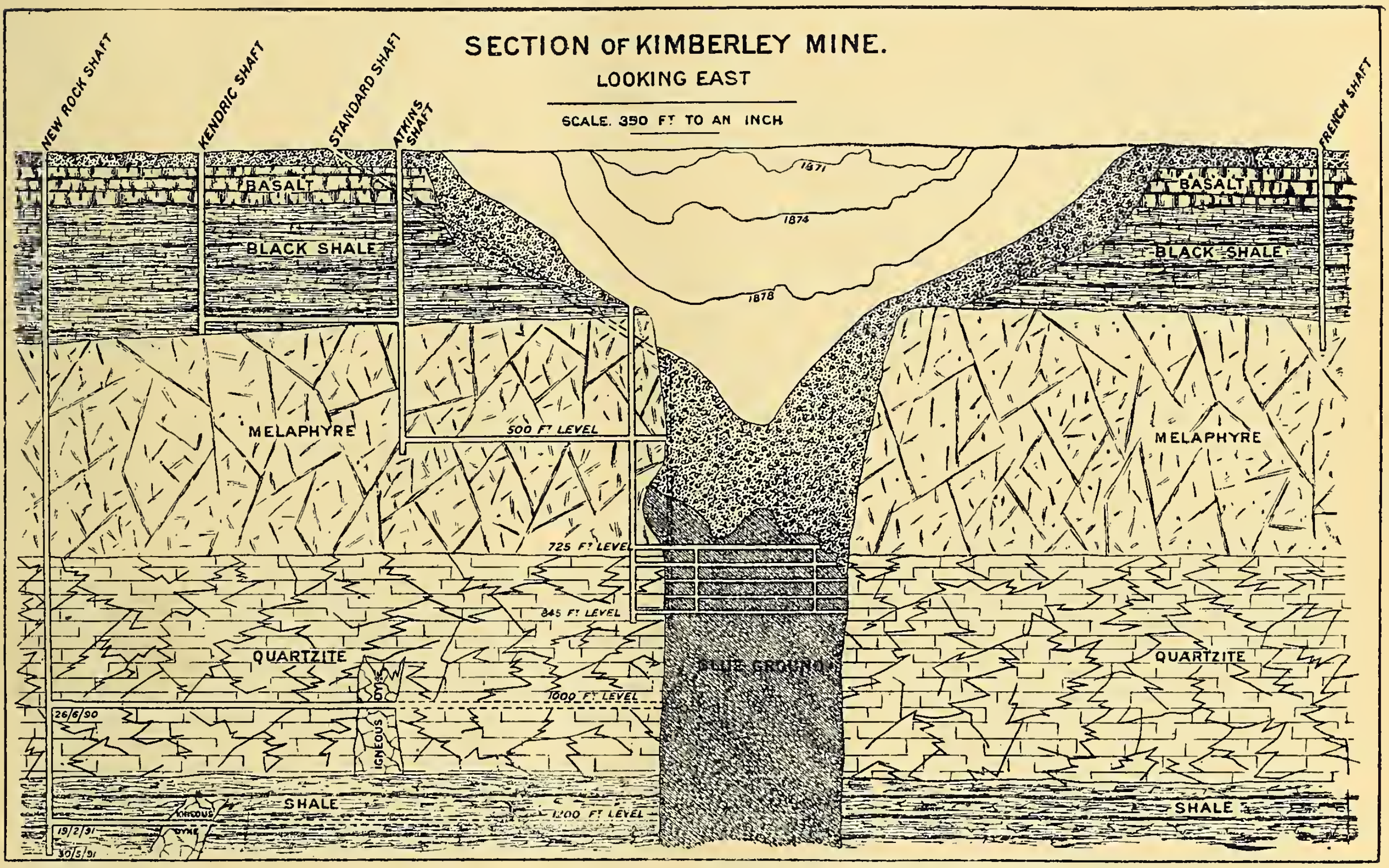
It is almost incomprehensible that one of the most important chapters in the world's history, and that the most fascinating and exciting, teeming with discoveries and disappointments, which have made possessors of one suit of clothes millionaires, and reduced others who were rich to absolute poverty, should have been left so many years without being put in a creditable, trustworthy, and readable form in the tongue of the people who possess these enormous sources of wealth. In twenty years' time no one will venture to imagine what the world would have been had it not been for the matchless discoveries of South Africa. But while kings' treasure-houses have become rich, and people in every station of life have had brought within their reach the king of gems, no one single trade has flourished on the South African produce to the extent of the jeweler, and by no one more than he ought a really good, trustworthy, well-written history of the diamonds and gold of South Africa to be appreciated. After many years' experience in the diamond and gold mines, Theodore Reunert, M. Inst. M. and C.E., has prepared just such a work as was sorely needed. This engineer thoroughly understands the subject which he essays to describe, and writes in a pleasing, readable style. He has too great a store of unparalleled wonders to color up his picture, and knowing the public dislike of technicalities he avoids them as much as possible. To one like ourselves, engrossed in this subject, he is often tantalisingly short, and no reader will be likely to grumble at irrelevant dry details. Indeed, every word of it ought to be known by heart by everyone connected with the trade, while to the investor it would be invaluable, and if they would only study its contents they would not expose their ignorance as they often do at board and public meetings.



And now just a few words as to its arrangement and contents. The book is divided into two parts, one treating of diamonds, the other of gold. In the first we have a general plan of the diamond fields, which shows the positions of all the great mines, and how the roads, streets, and towns have sprung up round them. Then comes the *Arabian Nights* outdone, in a plain simple history of those wonders of Mother Earth's, the diamond mines and the river washings. Incidentally, we are treated from necessity to a little of the geology of the district. But, unfortunately, the geologists have not kept up with the rate of progress at the mines or the author: although the latter is an engineer he lays no pretence of claims to original studies in the science of the earth; consequently, we cannot help noticing the work is very weak here, the geology long antedating the revelations of later years. However, the author is always careful to follow authorities, and gives a magnificent bibliography of the subject as an appendix. It is this following that has given rise to many anomalies and rather misleading phrases, such, *e.g.*, as that on p. 17:—"To the north of the Karoo beds are the Kimberley shales or Lower Karoo beds, containing the diamond mines of Kimberley and the Free State." This, of course, was written when the mining operations had only penetrated a few hundred feet into the first shales, but a glance at the section of Kimberley Mine we produce by the author's kind permission shows that below the first shales come melaphyres, and below these quartzites, and again below them yet other shales, none of which are mentioned at this point, leaving the impression that it is the Kimberley shales to which we are indebted for the diamond mines. Another passage two pages on, "thus confirming the supposition that the Kimberley mines are situated at the northern rim of the saucer-shaped basin which was once a great fresh water lake," is equally misleading, and we cannot help expressing our surprise at the copying in of the "mud theory." "They (the diamond pipes) are probably extinct craters, which have been filled from below by volcanic mud at a time when the surrounding country was under water." This theory of origin might have passed when the decomposed part of the pipes was all that was known, but when we see a piece of "blue" sound from anything like a depth which requires the use of dynamite, it would be the last thing we should think of calling a "mud."

The various systems of mining are then described, as are also the fascinating history of each of the mines, how they are worked, how many diamonds they produce, and how much they have realised. All that long chain of disasters are given out of which rose the necessity of combination, and the evolution of the Great De Beers Amalgamation. We dare not be tempted to detail a tithe of what is said, but in passing over its pages we cannot help feeling sorry that in making extracts errors have not been corrected, such as the quoting of the specific gravity of the diamond as 3·83, or the equivalent of the carat as 3·17 troy grains.

Just a few words must be given in explanation of the two blocks the author has kindly lent us out of the numerous ones which adorn the book. The first given illustrates the Premier Mine and is chosen for two reasons. First, because it represents the greatest mine, and secondly, being the newest it shows more how things used to be, when the mines were as thick in ropes as the rigging of the *Royal George.* From this will be gathered the method by which the yellow is dug, handled, and hoisted, and the general appearance of a South African diamond mine.



The second block shows a section through the Kimberley Mine, looking in an eastward direction. Of course it will be understood that this is restored from the various borings. It is the first one that has shown the result of the tunnelling at the 1,000ft. and 1,200ft. levels, otherwise it is like the one we published a year or two ago, just after the second shales had been struck. We notice that the author calls these "shales" in the section, and on p. 19 "metamorphic slates." Probably neither is altogether wrong or right. We have always regarded the melaphyres as responsible, when they were poured out hot upon the sandstones, for converting them into quartzites, and the same action upon the shales would metamorphose and indurate them, and the laminated sand would give them a fissile structure akin in appearance to true slates.

The zig-zag lines at the top in the centre indicate how far the mine had developed at the affixed dates, and the large opening with the fallen *debris* (the material now lining the opening) shows the dead lock to which things had come when the Combine stepped in and began a systematic mining, as indicated by the shafts and tunnellings. The names are affixed to the beds, and the various levels indicated show about the thickness of them. We hope we shall get specimens of the dykes cut through at the 1,000ft. and 1,200ft. levels, as we should be inclined to expect to find them both one.

The division on the gold fields is treated equally well, and omitting a few slips, some of which are doubtless misprints, is all that can be wished, although we regret we cannot enter into it. Thirty-six valuable appendices bring to a close one of the most reliable, well written, and interesting works to the jeweler and diamond broker that have ever been published on the subject, nor need it be less appreciated by the scientist, the engineer, the investor, or the general public. The book is published at 7s. 6d., and can be obtained at our office.

Key for Wednesbury Drill Hall.—The handsome key employed for the above purpose draws its inspiration from the purposes for which the hall is to be employed. The bow is formed by the Staffordshire Knot, in front of which, and supporting the ends of it, are two crossed officers' swords, carefully and correctly carried out. The stem of the key is formed by a battalion rifle, which is continued to the "bitt," the latter having upon the obverse the arms and coronet of Lord Dartmouth in enamel. Inside the head of the key is a wrought terminal arch, the upper portion being occupied by crockets, carved and foliated. Within the arch on the obverse comes the lettering "2nd V.B. S.S. Regt." The reverse has on it an inscription which strongly calls to mind the legend on children's china mugs, "for a good boy," "Presented to the Right Honorable the Earl of Dartmouth for opening the Drill Hall, Wednesbury, November 6th, 1893." The key was manufactured by Messrs. T. and J. Bragg, of Birmingham, in their usual excellent manner, and is enclosed in a handsome velvet case.

PRECIOUS STONES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Sapphires and Rubies.

WANT of space has frequently prevented us from dwelling upon the gems of the United States in 1892 in detail, a few particulars in connection with which we now purpose to give. It is no more than one would expect that we should first begin with sapphires and rubies, seeing that one company alone has a capital of six figures, and that the sixth one is of good size, and has been in existence over two years. If we do this it is not because this company has added any great quota to the gems of the States, nor because it has shared big dividends among its shareholders. We gave an exact account of these deposits when we had all the world against us, and we have lived to see a powerful majority come over to our side. It was in 1889 that the area of the British Co. was acquired, and this, according to the assurance of gentlemen considered to know, was going to yield some 2,000oz. of sapphires to the acre. But alas! there are authorities who have been in touch with the products during the last ten or even twenty years who maintain that no ruby or sapphire of the ideal hue has yet been found. The localities are about twelve miles east of Helena, known as Eldorado Bar, Spokam Bar, French Bar, Ruby Bar, and the drifts for half a dozen miles along the Missouri. In addition to the English Company there are several minor ones, who, taking advantage of the *furore* caused by the flotation of the first named, have placed all the gems upon the market they could obtain, which in all did not probably exceed £1,000. The gems are of very beautiful and interesting hues, but not those demanded by orthodoxy, as we should imagine the English Co. realise, seeing they have not yet placed any stones upon the market. These fancy sapphires are found in an old glacial gravel which varies in thickness from a few inches up to several feet. The other gems which occur, though very sparsely, are white topaz and cyanite, the most plentiful of all being the garnets, which are in rounded grains, and are usually mistaken for rubies. In mining operations upon the slatey bed-rock, a dyke of a volcanic rock, known to petrologists as a vesicular mica-augite-andesite, was found in which, amongst other things, there appeared crystals of sapphire. It is from this source, or from a rock of similar character, which has not yet been found *in situ*, that the gems have been derived. Whether they occur in this rock as an original constituent, or have been caught up in their upward passage from other rocks is at present unknown.

Turquoise.

As a real producer of gems, turquoise mining ought to have preceded the last, for the two principal companies, the American Turquoise Co. and the Azure Turquoise Co., produced during the year £25,000 worth of gems, without taking into account the product of numerous unsuccessful minor companies. The American Co. is in the old and classic locality of Los Cerrillos, New Mexico, the products of which are well known, and since the commencement of the company's operations large gems have been found, one of sixty carats being valued at £1,000. The Azure Co.'s mines are situated in Grant Co., also in New Mexico. The color of the gem found here is somewhat different from that of the foregoing, being of a robin's egg blue, sometimes with just a slight suspicion of the green rather than the sky-blue of the former locality.

Opal.

One of the new districts for this gem, and one which promises to be the most important in the States, is situated twenty miles south-west of Cofax, in the State of Washington, where the gems were first discovered in sinking a well. Some of the small gems were really so fine that £100 was asked for a three and a-half carat specimen. The opal occurs in a much altered basalt in nodules from the size of a large pin's head to a hen's egg, but it is only the smaller that are fine. A large quantity of fire opal also occurs distributed through the rock. On one occasion an opal ruse was taken up by a trade journal, but as nothing came of it let us hope our respected contemporary will learn a lesson from it, and never more talk about a vien of opals running through gravel.

Garnets.

On the whole the supply of garnets has been about as usual, few localities worth working being freshly opened. The fine specimens received by Indian traders from the Navajos probably amounted in value to several thousand dollars.

Tourmalines.

Several of the States have long been celebrated for the beauty of their tourmalines, but probably a large deposit recently found in San Diego, California, has yielded some of the most handsome cabinet specimens ever found. They are of the variety which from the approximation in hue to the ruby is known as rubellite, and are disseminated in star-like bunches of crystals through a silvery white scaly mineral known as lepidolite. We are acquainted with a gentleman who spent a large sum of money upon the property, and in breaking up the matrix hoped in vain to have secured by a fortunate break a section through the heart of one of these bunches of crystals, such as we now have before us. Specimens from this mine can be seen in the British and Jermyn-street Museums. Another new locality for tourmaline is south of the Alamo Mines, and it occurs here in a manner somewhat similar to that already noted.

Sphene.

During the year some magnificent specimens of this fascinating gem came upon the market, and of these some £300 worth were sold. These gems were discovered in Putnam Co., New York, and were of a number of hues, principally yellow, or yellow passing through tawny to red, and sometimes reached fifteen carats in weight. For brilliancy and shape the crystals themselves equal or excel anything that has been found anywhere.

The Quartz Family.

Of these, the most interesting, from many points of view, is a variety which, although appearing on the American market, really comes from Ottawa. This, when cut in proper directions, exhibited, under a good light, the phenomenon of asteriation. Most people are familiar with and expect to find quartz cat's-eyes, but that there are quartz star-stones will be a surprise. Still more interesting to the optician was the discovery at Placeville, California, of a vein of crystallised quartz, varying from six to fourteen inches in width, and 100ft. long, with crystals from an ounce or two up to eighty or ninety pounds in weight. Perhaps among the most marvellous of all are the so-called fossil forests of agatized wood. Of these several localities might be mentioned, notably Chalcedony Park, Arizona, and two localities eight and sixteen miles respectively distant therefrom. Examination of these beds, however, has shown the term fossil forest to be a misnomer, as the trees, although now "turned to stone," are all prostrate, lying at all angles, except in the erect position, and are never accompanied by roots. Further, microscopic investigation shows that the trees became submerged in a stream of gently running water, and that the tissues were attacked by a water fungus, which secreted from the waters the iron oxides, etc., which now give the trees their beautiful colors. Complete silicification afterwards ensued from a deposit of chalcedonic and crystalline quartz.

Pearls.

During the past year some of the pearl hunting furore has somewhat subsided, although probably £10,000 worth of the fresh water gems were taken out of the Wisconsin rivers and creeks. The millions of beautiful Unio shells now to be seen along all banks of rivers, creeks, and streams point to a probability of the repetition of the tale of the goose with the golden eggs, for it is only a matter of time, and that not a long one, before the whole of these beautiful fresh water molluscs will be a thing of the past.

Gem Collections in the States.

Before closing these notes reference ought to be made to several of the important additions of precious gems that have been made in various public institutions, notably that of the American Museum of Natural History and the Harvard University.

In and Out of the Courts.

A Judge's Idea of Perjury.

At a recent sitting of the Birmingham County-court, Judge Chalmers made use of an expression which will no doubt become stereotyped. An action was brought by Aaron Lyons, a traveller, against a widow named Bishop, for £7 15s., the price of a gold watch supplied, for which he asserted he had not been paid. Defendant, however, maintained that she had paid for the watch by giving another, and a balance of £2 15s. When the defendant's son was put into the box he also claimed the honor of having paid the debt, but upon the plaintiff being recalled he maintained he had not been paid, whereupon his Honor responded, "I believe you. This is 'the usual morning perjury,' on one side or the other. I believe the plaintiff; I may be wrong. I believe the defendant's son has deliberately perjured himself, but I may be wrong." Judgment with costs was accordingly given.

Daring and Extensive Robbery.

As we were going to press with our last, a daring robbery was committed at the establishment of Alfred Evington, jeweler and watchmaker, Pelham-street, Nottingham. Although it was only about half-past eight in the evening, the thief, who was a laborer, named William Stevens, had smashed the window and got possession of about £2,000 of goods, and was in the act of escaping. He was, however, very closely followed under alarm, and dropped his booty in the street. Eventually he was stopped by a postman, delivered up to justice, and now awaits his trial.

The First Offenders Act.

The man A. S. Waltho and the girl Kate Roberts, who were recently charged at Birmingham, the latter with stealing sundry articles of jewelry and diamonds from her employer, Howard J. Goldsmid, and the former with receiving them, well knowing them to have been stolen, as previously reported in our columns, have, under the above Act, received what all will no doubt consider a very slight punishment. The man is to receive only four months' imprisonment, while the girl gets off scot free. It is true both have borne a good character until now, but so do many others who get justice administered to them with a heavier hand than this fortunate pair. It was not as though it were a single act performed in a moment of weakness; it was systematic thieving extending over many months, which laid many an honest person under suspicion.

Another Very Light Sentence.

Percy Joyce, a well-dressed swell thief, twenty-five years of age, 5ft. 5in. in height, wearing a dark moustache and sometimes dressed in a blue serge suit and blue melton coat, has lately been paying visits to town and country jewelers, and obtaining rings and other jewelry. His *modus operandi* was to ask for some article which could be either sent to someone well known in the neighborhood or taken by himself. Recently he paid a visit to Edwin Crouch, jeweler, 12, The Pavement, Clapham, and obtained from him two diamond rings, under the pretence that he had been sent by a gentleman well known to the man of diamonds. The young gentleman was very surprised recently when on alighting from a pony trap he found himself confronted by a detective. Other charges were also brought against him of stealing in a similar manner rings belonging to Otto Mohr, jeweler, High-road, Streatham, and Richard Behr, of Sutton. For all these he was let off with the slight sentence of six months' hard labor. We are glad to hear that the Chelmsford jewelers intend to have him apprehended as soon as his term is up, for stealing rings from two establishments, and we hope others will also come forward, and so get the rascal beyond the power of theft for some years to come.

Provincial Shoplifting.

On the afternoon of the 4th ult., W. Marshall, jeweler, of High-street, Grantham, received a visit from a respectably dressed woman, who asked him to go to Stoke to repair some clocks, which he promised to do. She then asked to see some rings, and whilst in the shop managed to gain possession of two of them without the jeweler knowing it. These she subsequently pawned through her mother. She was apprehended and remanded, pending other charges being preferred against her.

Theft of a Tray of Rings.

A clever piece of shoplifting was effected on the 1st ult., at the establishment of M. Wehrly and Co., jewelers, Stonegate, York, by a well-dressed man 5ft. 10in. in height, fair complexion, wearing a brown felt hat and a long grey coat, who, making sundry inquiries about the engraving of some souvenir spoons, which necessitated the turning of the back of the member of the firm attending to him, managed to abstract from the window a stand containing twelve rings of the value of £120. Unfortunately the loss was not noticed till late in the evening, when the window case was found unclosed, so that the thief got a good start.

Burglary at Govan.

About four o'clock on the morning of the 15th ult., a constable discovered that the premises of Mr. Baker, watchmaker and jeweler, near the Cross, Govan, N.B., had been burglarised from the back, and upon the arrival of the owner it was discovered that the thieves had successfully got away with about sixty English and Geneva watches to the value of about £150.

Wholesale Theft of Watches.

It is rarely one hears of a worse case of illegal pawning of goods left for repair than that of Richard Oliver, recently sentenced to six months' imprisonment at Birmingham. It appears Oliver was an old offender and had been previously sentenced upon a similar charge. In this case about a dozen people flocked to the police-court in the vain hope of hearing something of the whereabouts of their tickers, but the rascal had prevented any traces of them by the destruction of the pawn-tickets. When apprehended he had got to Cullompton, Devon, on his way to Southampton, for America. Let us hope his Transatlantic voyage will only be delayed about six months.

Loss of a Jeweler's Bag of Samples.

Despite the losses always occurring through leaving valuable luggage unprotected, every month someone pays for his carelessness by the loss of something of value. On the afternoon of the 6th ult. a traveller, representing a firm of jewelers, got out of the down Irish boat express at Llandudno Junction, and left two bags and some other articles on one of the station seats. On his return he was quite surprised to find that one of his bags, containing a valuable selection of samples, had disappeared!

Impersonating a Squire's Son.

William Meredith is a kind of Merthyr Whiteley who caters for a variety of wants of human nature, from furniture to jewelry and watches. Recently he was favored with a visit by a young gentleman, who, despite his untidy and even shabby appearance, led the "universal provider" to believe that he was the son of Squire Edwards, of Bedlingo. Mr. Meredith sealed his faith in the assertion by allowing the impersonator to take away a silver watch, chain, and pendant to the value of £7 11s. Subsequently the imposition was discovered, and that the articles had been placed under the care of the knight of the golden balls for a consideration of 25s. The delinquent will now play the *rôle* of a criminal at hard labor for a period of two months.

Theft of £200 Worth of Diamond Rings.

The man Patrick Haly, who in October last stole from the shop of D. W. Hislop, 3, Argyll-arcade, Glasgow, nine diamond rings of the value of £200, has been sentenced to three years' penal servitude. It transpired that Haly, although not before sentenced in the land of the thistle, had received two sentences of eighteen months each in the land of the rose. He might possibly have done better by sticking to the shamrock.

Burglars at Work in Sunderland.

A number of successful burglaries have recently been perpetrated in Sunderland; in the small hours of the morning of the 5th ult., a shop in High-street East was made the scene of operations, in which case a large iron bar was broken from the shutters, one of the latter removed, and the window smashed, and a number of articles of jewelry, valued at about £60, abstracted before a policeman, who heard the crash, could arrive at the scene.

A Turn of the Tables.

JOSEPH RICKETT is a watchmaker, of High-street, Brentford, and although only thirty-three years of age, has a wife and seven children, and in some things appears to have the innocence of his last-born. Having found difficulties in meeting his bills he forthwith took to pawning watches entrusted to him to repair, under the idea that there was nothing criminal in the act. When charged at the Brentford Police-court his defending barrister held him up as such a well-intending simpleton that the court not only discharged him under the First Offenders Act, but made a present of £5 out of a fund at their disposal for the benefit of the prisoner's wife and family.

Loss of One Hundred and Fifty Nuptial Bands.

MR. WERNET, a Newport jeweler, recently discovered that at some time or other, probably within a week, he had lost a tray of 150 wedding rings. As he neither knew when, where, or how the loss occurred, and wedding rings have such a bullion value, and nothing much to distinguish them, we fear the robbery is not likely to be traced.

At it Again.

IN September last Henry Darcey was bound over to be of good behavior under the First Offenders Act for stealing a diamond pin. But recently he visited the establishment of William Lockwood, a jeweler, of New-street, Huddersfield, in company with another young man, and while they were engaged in looking at some jewelry a diamond pin valued at £13 disappeared. Being highly respectably connected, he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

Why our Windows are Smashed.

ELSEWHERE we report a case of window smashing, in which the man said he did it to be locked up to get bread. In another case, which occurred on the 19th ult., a man named Walter Bishop smashed a window of Mrs. Walker, jeweler, of High Holborn, E.C., and when the prisoner was taken into custody he stated that he did it because he was out of work. When before the magistrate the following dialogue took place:—The Prisoner: Before I broke the window, sir, I had been walking about without food for forty hours trying to get work. I felt weak and ill, and was driven to commit the act to get food. The Magistrate: You only had to apply to a constable, and he would have taken you to a casual ward, where you could have got food. The Prisoner: I beg your pardon, sir, I had already applied to four casual wards, and was told they were quite full up. The magistrate sent him to prison for a month.

Gilpin Sentenced to Six Weeks' Imprisonment.

HENRY GILPIN, whose bankruptcy has been several times referred to, has been sentenced at Birmingham to six weeks' imprisonment, pleading guilty to obtaining credit to the extent of £20 and upwards without informing his creditors that he was an undischarged bankrupt.

Selling Watches Without a Licence.

ROBERT GEORGE WHITE, 5, Lower Park-terrace, New Southgate, was visited on the 9th of September by an officer of the Inland Revenue, who asked to see some watches similar to one which had been bought by a friend. The vendor appears to have been slightly suspicious of his customer, but ultimately admitted him into his back parlor, and there displayed before him some dozen timesters, varying from 53s. to 105s. Ultimately one was purchased for 75s. and a receipt given. Since then defendant has taken out both a plate and hawker's licence. He said he was entirely ignorant of the law and thought because he was an agent there was no necessity for him to take out these licences. He was sentenced to £5 fine, with costs, or fourteen days' imprisonment.

The Window Smashing Mania.

CHARLES PHILLIPS was a tramp whose shoes had borne him from Salisbury to London, where he found the streets not exactly paved with gold—but only separated from the shining metal by the thickness of a pane of glass, and accordingly he rewarded his boots by taking them off and throwing them through the plate glass window of Mr. Aldis, of Buckingham Palace-road, jeweler, and in the act did £30 of damage, for which he has been committed for trial.

Window Smashing Still Prevails.

A DETERMINED and successful attempt was recently made by a laborer named William Weller to smash the window of George Attenborough, of Newington Causeway, London. Although the prisoner was unsuccessful with the first stone and the use of his hands, with the second missile he effected a smash 10ft. in length. He was sentenced to a fine of £5, or one month.

Were the Minutes Altered?

A RATHER important and somewhat novel case was recently decided at the Bow County-court, in which a clockmaker, of 83, Victoria Dock-road, Canning Town, sued the West Ham School Board for £16 12s. 6d., the price of seven clocks alleged to have been supplied by him to the Board in accordance with a contract entered into in February last. The plaintiff said his tender for the supply of seven clocks at £2 7s. 6d. each was accepted by the Board on February 7th, and he was directed to send the clocks in accordance with the sample he submitted, the name of the School Board and the name of the school at which each clock was to be used to be written on the dial. In April he sent three of the clocks to the School Board offices, and the clerk refused to receive them; but the man instructed to leave them persisted in doing so, although a constable was sent for. The Board stated that the plaintiff put his name and address on the dials of the clocks. The terms of the contract were that no lettering was to appear on the dials other than the name of the West Ham School Board and the names of the respective schools where the clocks were to be placed. The minute of the proceedings of the Board was put in, and it confirmed this statement. In cross-examination, plaintiff said that the words, "No maker's name to be put on the dial," had been added to the minutes since first written, that he took the contract at a low price, as he wanted to use it as an advertisement. Two members of the Works Committee gave evidence in support of the witness's statement, the jury evidently believing they were right, as they awarded plaintiff the amount claimed.

The Necessity of Stamping.

RECENTLY, in the Lord Mayor's Court, an action was brought by Edward Light, of Bartholomew-close, London, E.C., against L. Schnabel, a jeweler, of Croydon, to recover £15 18s. 6d. on a guarantee. It appeared that in November, 1892, a brother of the defendant, H. Schnabel, was indebted to the plaintiff to the amount of £33 odd on two dishonored acceptances for goods supplied. Plaintiff was about to sue the brother, when defendant sent him a letter, which, it was said, amounted to a guarantee to pay the amount, upon the receipt of which plaintiff stayed proceedings. When, however, this letter was produced it was found to be unstamped, and the plaintiff had to pay the penalty (£10 0s. 6d.), before the case was proceeded with. The letter having been put in, counsel sought to give secondary evidence of the plaintiff's letter sent in reply; but the other side objected, and the objection having been upheld the case could be carried no further. The learned judge accordingly non suited the plaintiff.

A Curious Prosecutor.

A CASE recently came before the Clerkenwell Police-court of a somewhat curious character, in which George McCullagh, jeweler, of Myddelton-square, was charged with stealing a diamond, value £5, the property of Henry White and Richard Charles Read, jewelers, Spencer-street, Clerkenwell. It appeared that the prisoner, upon hearing a warrant was out for his arrest, went to the police station and gave himself up. It was stated in the evidence that on September 19th a man named Stevens wished to buy the diamond from White, and on his suggestion that an independent person should weigh it, they went to McCullagh. According to White, the prisoner did not do the weighing properly, but held the scales, and picked the stone up very rapidly, wrapping it in a piece of paper, and apparently handing it back to White. When, however, the stone was afterwards set it was discovered that it was not the diamond at all, but an inferior and almost worthless one. Prisoner declared that he simply weighed the stone as requested, and returned it as he received it. The prosecutor White gave the accused an excellent character, and on the magistrate remanding him on a £20 bail at once offered to become bail in that amount, and the two left the court together.

Sequel to a Practical Joke.

READERS will remember the case in which a thoughtless trio played a vile and cruel joke upon the wife of a traveller, by stating that the husband was locked up, and that the bag was required at the police station, and how the traveller returned home to find his bag had been obtained from his wife during his absence; that it was subsequently discovered who were the perpetrators of the act, and how they were imprisoned and fined. Another action has now been instituted against the men Bray and Steadman for depriving the plaintiff of the bag of jewelry, and claiming damages for its detention, and for slander in alleging that the plaintiff had stolen it. The jury awarded the plaintiff damages of £85 and costs.

OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

BACHNER, M., *Jeweler*, BREWER-STREET, REGENT-STREET, W. This debtor was publicly examined on the 8th ult., the statement of affairs revealing a deficiency of nearly £2,000. The examination was a long one, and not being satisfied with answers given, the Official Receiver asked for an order on the debtor to file a goods account for six months. The debtor stated he had kept no books, but would try to make out the list. The Official Receiver wanted to know particularly what had been done with the £200 of goods bought during September. The examination was adjourned.

A Disclaimer.

MESSRS. WHITEHORN BROS., the well-known Jewelers and Diamond Merchants, of Featherstone-buildings, Paris and New York, inform us they are not the Whitehorn referred to in this case in our last report. We congratulate and thank them.

BARRADELL, PERCY RUSSELL, *Jeweler*, 121, SALOP-STREET, and 56, VICTORIA-STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON, has been adjudicated a bankrupt, and the first meeting of creditors held, at which it was stated that the liabilities were about £1,400 and the amount expected to rank £1,299; assets were set down at £587. Debtor attributed his insolvency to ill-health and bad trade. T. Appleby, of Birmingham, was appointed trustee. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Blanckensee and Co.	Birmingham	50	0	0
Crosbee, A. W., and Co.	,,	78	0	0
Fussel and Drury	,,	20	4	6
Fabery, R.	,,	21	12	0
Pope and Sons	Bristol	71	0	0
Grainger and Smith	Dudley	168	19	6
Jackson, P. J.	Edgbaston	77	16	5
Greenwood and Fieldings	,,	33	14	4
Shaw, T., and Co.	,,	44	17	5
Wallace and Linnell	Kettering (abt.)	40	0	0
Albrecht and Albrecht	Leeds	46	0	2
Burras, W. C.	,,	22	18	6
Buckley and Sons	,,	20	1	0
Eastwood, Bertram	,,	51	0	7
Hill, David, and Co.	Manchester	49	5	4
Wright and Corsett	South Wigston (abt.)	27	6	0

FULLY SECURED CREDITORS.

Joseph,—	Birmingham (abt.)	58	0	0
Allen,—	Wolverhampton	19	8	0
Rhodes and Son	,,	10	10	0

CARTER, FREDERICK JOSEPH, *Jeweler's Factor*, 89, VYSE-STREET, BIRMINGHAM. A meeting of the creditors in this case was held on the 2nd ult., at which the Official Receiver stated that the debtor had made an offer of a composition of 8s. in the £, but that until the debtor had been publicly examined with regard to a bill of sale given to his brother, he was unable to report definitely upon the offer. He did not anticipate that a dividend of 8s. in the £ would be paid if the estate was wound up in bankruptcy. The stock had been over-estimated by the debtor. In addition to the particulars we have already published, the Official Receiver went on to say that on March 27th debtor borrowed £75 from his brother, Harry James Carter, and undertook if at any time he found himself in difficulties to transfer to him his furniture as security for the loan. On September 22nd, in consideration of the loan and a further one of £10, he executed a bill of sale in favour of his brother for £87. The Official Receiver further pointed out that some boxes of goods had been removed to New-street Station and left in the cloak-room for a time, whence they were removed to Snow Hill Station, a proceeding which appeared to him to be very extraordinary. The debtor stated that the boxes belonged to his wife and his wife's sister, who lived with him. The Official Receiver further said he had ascertained that the bill of sale had not been registered and that therefore it was invalid. The guarantor of half the composition had also withdrawn. Addressing the creditors, he said he should certainly go very thoroughly into the matter. It was about as complicated a case as he had had to deal with in the jewelry trade for some time. The debtor had destroyed books and misled him, and had induced other persons to tell lies. The deficiency was very large, the debtor having lost at the rate of £100 a month. It was resolved to wind up the estate in bankruptcy, and Mr. C. W. Cotterell was appointed trustee.

COLLBRAN, THOMAS WILLIAM, *Watchmaker*, HIGH-STREET, HAILSHAM. The public examination of this debtor took place on the 1st ult., at Lewes Bankruptcy Court, when debtor stated that he commenced business in 1879, taking over his father's concern without any capital, borrowing money to pay off his father's indebtedness, which he was never able to repay, as his business profits had declined from £350 to £150 per annum. The liabilities are £362; assets £30. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Troup and Sons	London	49	0	0
Burfish, Jos.	Hailsham	140	0	0
Linnock, Miss	,,	57	10	0
Loveridge and Co.	Walsall	43	0	0

COLLINS, HENRY GOULD, AND COLLINS, WILLIAM WILSON (COLLINS, H. G., AND CO., trading as), *Art Jewelers and Silversmiths*, 29, KING'S-ROAD, BRIGHTON. In connection with this case, already reported, the new first meeting of creditors was held at the Official Receiver's, Brighton, on the 7th ult.

CROOK, ABRAHAM, *Watch Manufacturer*, 2, OXFORD-TERRACE, CHAPEL FIELDS, COVENTRY, and PATRICROFT, MANCHESTER. In addition to the details of this case reported by us last month, we are now able to give the following list of creditors, which shows the debts greater than originally set down. When this case was called debtor did not appear, and the meeting was adjourned *sine die*.

		£	s.	d.
Fulda and David	London	165	2	6
Causer, T.	Coventry	143	13	2
Harris, Charles	,,	40	7	0
Loveitt and Son	,,	14	3	9
Linnett, E. W.	,,	92	16	1
Wilday, J. S.	,,	146	0	0

EVANS, JOHN, *Watchmaker*, CONWAY-ROAD and KINMEL HOUSE, COLWYN BAY, appeared for his public examination on the 9th ult. The statement of affairs showed liabilities amounting to £467 and assets estimated to realise £307, the alleged cause of failure being stated to be the bad season. The debtor stated that he commenced business in 1887, and prior to that he was a journeyman. He had no capital when he commenced business. He had had a good business during the whole of the six years. His gross receipts from the business amounted to £4 10s. or £5 per week, and his profit averaged £3 or £3 5s., out of which he had to pay rent, rates, and cost of living. He estimated that his stock-in-trade would realise about £131. It had cost him about £200. He considered his book debts would realise about £160, but his debtors would only be able to pay by instalments. In reply to a question as to why he had allowed his book debts to run up to such a large sum, the bankrupt stated that that was the only way to do business there, and that a watch could not be sold for cash in five years. He had never kept any books of account except a ledger for debtors. The bankrupt was ordered to furnish a cash account for the last two years, and subject to that being satisfactory the examination was declared closed.

LEESON, WILLIAM TANSLEY, AND LEESON, GEORGE WILLIAM TANSLEY (LEESON AND SON, *Turret Clock Manufacturers*, HIGH-STREET, COLESHILL, also trading as), *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, ANSON-STREET, RUGELEY. In this case the first meeting of creditors has been held as announced in our last. The estates are divided up, and amongst the creditors of Leeson and Son are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Cook and Sons	Birmingham	13	5	1
Dalby, Louisa	,,	20	0	0
Eaves, T. W.	,,	15	13	4
Ward, Jones, and Co.	,,	44	0	0

The total liabilities are set down at £267, and assets at £235. Against the estate of Mr. T. Leeson the liabilities are set down at £103, and assets at £62. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Leeson, H.	Coleshill	20	0	0
Upton, U. T.	,,	34	0	0
Lafaralle and Crawford	,,	14	11	10

RAILTON, WILLIAM, *Jeweler and General Factor*, 70, EASTBOURNE-STREET, and 9, CHURCH-STREET, LIVERPOOL. This debtor was adjudicated on the 1st ult., and the first meeting of creditors held on the 7th ult., the public examination taking place two days later still. The total liabilities are £2,051, and the assets, after deducting preferential claims, £790. Amongst the creditors are:—

		£	s.	d.
Castrell Bros....	London	29	6	8
Frankau and Co.	,,	61	19	3
Fulda and David	,,	25	19	0
Hagelberg, —	,,	86	12	4
Maas, Charles, and Co.	,,	43	6	8
Michael Bros....	,,	25	8	6
Suskind Bros....	,,	62	6	8

		£	s.	d.
Silber and Fleming	Glasgow	32	13	11
Wemtraud, F.	,,	71	3	4
Abrahams Bros.	Birmingham	619	0	7
Johnson Bros.	,,	46	1	1
Employers' Insurance of Gt. Britain ...	Glasgow	32	12	4
Griffin, John W.	Liverpool	30	0	0
Hardcastle, Isaac (Exors. of)	,,	89	0	0
Hough, Miss Jane	,,	49	6	3
North, Kirk, and Cornett	,,	25	0	0
Stuart, Mrs. Isabella (Assignees of)... ...	,,	277	0	0
Gerrard, Chas....	Mold	31	0	0
Wade, B.	Leeds	88	15	5
FULLY SECURED CREDITORS.				
Union Loan and Discount Co.	Liverpool	113	0	0
PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS		54	18	10

REYNOLDSON, ARTHUR, *Jeweler*, 9 and 35, CANAL, SALISBURY. The first meeting of the creditors interested under this bankruptcy took place on the 11th ult. The chairman stated that there were in all ninety-one creditors, but only fifty-one proofs had been received. The gross liabilities amounted to £3,540; to fully secured creditors £674, the value of the securities being estimated at £50, thus leaving the balance of £624 to rank against the estate for dividend; to preferential creditors £127. The liabilities expected to rank against the estate for dividend amounted to £3,362. The assets were as follows: Stock-in-trade, cost £7,000, estimated to produce £5,000; trade fixtures, fittings and machinery, valued at £800; other property £30; book debts, good £943, doubtful and bad, estimated to produce £6 13s. The total assets amounted to £6,489, from which preferential claims amounting to £127 have to be deducted, leaving the net assets at £6,362. In reply to Mr. Hasluck, who appeared on behalf of several Londoners, Mr. Stanley, who appeared for Mrs. Reynoldson and other family creditors, said his client, Mrs. Reynoldson, had invested £6,000 in the business, the whole of which had been lost. He had not had time to investigate the debtor's affairs so as to enable him to make an offer that day; however, he hoped to be able to make a very substantial offer. He could not base the offer upon the debtor's figures, as for all he knew the stock might only be worth half of £5,000. They all knew that when jewelers' stock was realised for the purpose of bankruptcy, or an arrangement with creditors, it had to be sold at a great sacrifice. Under any circumstances he did not think the debtor's estimate of the stock-in-trade could be relied upon. In reply as to whether the estate could pay 20s. in the £, Mr. Stanley said the bank had levied an execution on the debtor's effects. If the estate went into bankruptcy, and costs amounting to hundreds of pounds were incurred, the creditors would only have to thank the bank for it. The debtor as soon as the execution was levied filed his petition. He only wanted time to enable him to engage a competent trade valuer, to value the stock. He was not asking for the adjournment for the purpose of delaying matters, as he had no interest in the estate. If his client found that the estate was worth 20s. in the £, and a reasonable amount of interest on the amount advanced, the creditors would be paid in full. The Official Receiver said he should report to the court that there was 20s. in the £, according to the debtor's statement of affairs. It was then proposed and seconded that the meeting be adjourned, but as some of the creditors did not approve of the adjournment, a long discussion ensued, and eventually Mr. Stanley said he would withdraw his application for an adjournment, as after the remarks that had been passed he thought the creditors had better have the estate wound up in bankruptcy, and he would advise his clients what to do later on, when the estate was offered for sale. A resolution was then passed that the debtor be adjudged bankrupt. The meeting then nominated G. G. Poppleton, C.A., of Birmingham, and Lawrence Hasluck, C.A., Holborn Viaduct, London, for trustee. After the meeting had voted, the chairman announced that creditors to the amount of £1,301 were in favor of Mr. Hasluck, and creditors to the amount of £1,464 were in favor of Mr. Poppleton. It was afterwards found that a proof for £400 in favor of Mr. Hasluck had been placed to the credit of Mr. Poppleton, so that Mr. Poppleton was really in the minority, and Mr. Hasluck was appointed trustee accordingly. The remuneration was left to the committee of inspection. A long, dreary discussion then ensued as to the appointment of the committee of inspection, the meeting being unable to agree as to who should be appointed, but finally it was decided to appoint J. F. Shepherd, of Saunders and Shepherd; H. Brown, 3, Newcastle-place, E.C.; Henry Munday, of Great Eastern-street; M. Davis, bank manager, Salisbury; and J. H. Francis, Birmingham. After a resolution had been passed to the effect that the premium on the trustee's bond be paid out of the estate, the meeting was closed.

ROBERTS, HENLEN, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, late 281, KENTISH TOWN-ROAD, N.W. The first meeting of the creditors in this case was held on the 3rd ult. The unsecured creditors were set down at £1,418, and partly secured creditors £175. Total liabilities expected to rank are estimated at £1,533; total assets at £223, but in these, the debtor stated, an £80 item had been reckoned twice. A creditor was about to ask the debtor some questions when the chairman suggested that such should be left till the public examination. Debtor, however, stated that the business was now being carried on by Mr. Hunt, his former employé. Mr. Myer suggested a private trustee, but Mr. A. Perrier thought the estate too small for this, and that it had better be left in the hands of the Official Receiver. The latter stated that the debtor informed him that he disposed of his stock in June last to Hunt for £220, receiving £25 in cash, and £110 in bills extending over four years: £65 was owing Hunt for wages, and the latter had agreed to pay the landlord £60 due to him. The matter was left in the hands of the Official Receiver. Among the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Hills and Co.	London	23	0	0
Hoar, Miss	,,	55	0	0
Light, E.	,,	36	0	0
Lednor, E.	,,	65	0	0
English Optic Co.	,,	21	10	0
Over, T.	,,	109	0	0
Lloyd, E.	,,	27	0	0
Lehmann,—	,,	25	10	0
Ling, E.	,,	220	0	0
Taylor, A.	,,	27	16	0
Coleshill, W.	Colnbrook	80	0	0
Roberts, H., sen.	,,	180	0	0
Burrows, J.	Cookham	60	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS...		50	0	0
FULLY SECURED CREDITOR		154	0	0
PARTLY SECURED CRBDITOR.				
Winter, Miss J.	Maidenhead	175	0	0
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES		324	0	0

WEBBER, JOSEPH ANDREW, AND WEBBER, WALTER HENRY (J. WEBBER AND SON, trading as), *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, 87, OXFORD-STREET, SWANSEA. In this case the first meeting of creditors was held on November 28th, and the examination set down for the 1st inst., at the Town Hall, Swansea.

WILLIAMS, CHARLES ARTHUR, *Optician*, BARRY DOCK, and 82, MISKIN-STREET, CATHAYS. In this case the first meeting of creditors was held at the Official Receiver's office, on the 16th ult. The statement of affairs submitted by the debtor showed gross liabilities amounting to £381 19s. 6d., of which £51 1s. 10d. was partly secured. The assets amount to £116 10s. 11d., and the deficiency amounts to £239 16s. 10d. The failure is attributed to loss through fire and excessive competition. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Grimshaw and Baxter	London	25	0	0
Imray, James, and Son	,,	25	14	0
Heath and Co.	Crayford	28	0	0
Brown, James, and Son	Glasgow	27	3	7
PARTLY SECURED CREDITOR		76	16	10
(Estimated value of security, £25 12s.)				
PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS		17	8	0

WOITOWITSCH, HERMAN, *Jeweler and Watchmaker*, TRAFALGAR-ROAD, GREENWICH. In this case the first meeting of creditors was held on the 20th ult., and the examination the next day.

DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT.

COX, CHARLES, *Jeweler, Silversmith, and Optician*, 184, HIGH-STREET, RYDE, I.W., has executed a deed of arrangement for the benefit of his creditors; L. Hasluck, C.A., Holborn Viaduct, as trustee. The unsecured liabilities are £446, assets estimated at £300. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Williamson, H., Limited	London	266	0	0
Harris and Sheldon	Birmingham	15	0	0
Sydenham, A....	,,	19	1	10
Round and Co.	Sheffield	27	17	5

FINESTONE, JULIUS, *Jeweler*, 171, BURY NEW-ROAD, MANCHESTER, has assigned with a view of paying a composition of 4s. in the £ in March, 1894, secured by a surety. The unsecured liabilities are £510, and amongst the list of creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Nordman, Jules	London	52	0	0
Cooke, W.	Handsworth	58	0	0
Lahds, Marks Hirsch	Manchester	200	0	0
Rosenthal, Samuel	,,	79	0	0

HOGG, Alfred Edward, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 81, Wellgate, and 17, Mansfield-road, Rotherham, has assigned to G. G. Poppleton, C.A., Birmingham, with a view of paying 10s. in the £ by three instalments at four, eight, and twelve months, the last instalment being secured by sureties. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Sylvester, Isaac, and Co.	Birmingham	40	0	0
Cohen, J., and Son	,,	124	10	0
Brash, Isaac	Manchester	18	10	0
Chesterfield, John	Rotherham	20	0	0

MARTIN, James, *Jeweler*, 97, High-street, Ventnor, I.W., has assigned to George Martin, 20, Cranfield-road, Brockley, with a view of payment of 6s. in the £, payable in one amount, secured by surety and assigned to him upon trust. The principal creditor is George Martin, £2,209. There is also about £300 due to other creditors, and the estimated net assets are only £205.

MOXEY, Mary Marks, *Jeweler and Silversmith*, 51, Arcade, High-street, Exeter, has assigned to A. H. Honey, 23, Catherine-street, Exeter. The unsecured iabilities are £628, with assets estimated at £490. Among lthe creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Thompson and Son	London	71	0	0
Walters, W. H.	,,	25	0	0
Demer Bros.	,,	23	13	0
Turnbull Bros.	Birmingham	90	0	2
Blanckensee, M.	,,	39	0	0
Barnett and Francis	,,	39	0	0
Harris and Sheldon	,,	39	0	0
Sloane and Carter	,,	26	0	0
Wilmot and Son	,,	20	0	0
Arcade Company	Exeter	55	0	0
Walker and Hall	Sheffield	16	8	10
Bankers' Claims		39	2	0

PLATNAUER, Samuel, Thornbury House, Clifton, Bristol, and Platnauer, Louis Tintem, Carnarvon-road, Bristol, *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, 10, Victoria-street, Bristol, and 1, St. Paul's-square, Birmingham, have assigned to Stephen Tryon, Bristol, with a committee of inspection, with a view to payment of creditors in full at the following rates :—3s. at four, eight, and twelve months; 2s. at sixteen, twenty, and twenty-four months; 1s. 8d. at twenty-eight, thirty-two, and thirty-six months, from July, 1893. The unsecured liabilities are £18,477; secured creditors, £3,700; assets estimated at £24,851. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Platnauer, M. J. (Exors. of)	London	2,346	0	0
Robbins and Appleton	,,	172	0	0
Lazarus and Rosenfeld	,,	152	0	0
Ehrmann, B.	,,	90	0	0
Picard, H., and Frère	,,	71	0	0
Jeanbourquin Freres	Aux Bois	81	0	0
Gouvernon Freres	,,	63	0	0
Addie and Lovekin	Birmingham	200	0	0
Britton. B. H., and Sons	,,	176	0	0
Coley Bros.	,,	122	0	0
Clewley, E J., and Co.	,,	150	0	0
English Watch Co.	,,	75	0	0
Ehrhardt, W.	,,	298	0	0
Fenton, James	,,	82	0	0
Hinde Bros.	,,	63	0	0
Hopwood, Thomas	,,	50	0	0
Kinsey Bros.	,,	100	0	0
Loveridge, G., and Co.	,,	149	0	0
Mayell Bros.	,,	111	0	0
Millward, Lucy	,,	109	0	0
Pendleton, W., and Sons	,,	276	0	0
Payton, C., and Sons	,,	114	0	0
Rogers, James	,,	50	0	0
Whitehouse, E., and Son	,,	357	0	0
Walton, G. E., and Co.	,,	568	0	0
Wrighton, C. M.	,,	71	0	0
Platnauer, George	,,	1,720	0	0
Trevitt, E. J., and Son	,,	179	0	0
Tribe, Clark, and Co.	Bristol	105	0	0
Spuhler, Jemeret A.	Chaux de Fonds	87	0	0
Godat, Jules	,,	96	0	0
Riekel, H.	,,	883	0	0
Laville, Xavier	Courgena	164	0	0
Bales, J.	Coventry	176	0	0
Willman, A., and Co.	Freiburg	61	0	0
Hartmann and Dieteschs	Haida	51	0	0
Stern Gebruder	Hanan	51	0	0
Schoenan Geb.	Hullenstennach	72	0	0
Gundel Geb.	Klingenthal	55	0	0
Waterbury Clock Co.	New York	59	0	0
Juillard, Emile	Porrentrug	164	0	0
Schiffinan, B.	St. Imier	60	0	0
Junghaus Bros.	Schramberg	99	0	0
Haas, P. L., and Son	Schwarzwald	199	0	0
Ashberry, P., and Sons	Sheffield	56	0	0
Beardshaw, A., and Co.	,,	56	0	0
Round, John, and Son	,,	105	0	0
Mosley, R. F.	,,	121	0	0
Gallimore, John	,,	170	0	0
Gallimore, W., and Sons	,,	273	0	0
Bankers' Claims		5,000	0	0

TUTEUR, Sigmond T. K., *Jeweler*, 38, Holborn Viaduct, E.C., and 12, North Villas, Camden-square, has assigned to Henry Payton, 3, Vyse-street, Birmingham, and another. The unsecured liabilities are £2,444; secured creditors, £638; assets estimated at £1,032. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Backes and Strauss	London	240	0	0
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Tannenbaum, A.	,,	121	0	0
Weiner, S.	,,	144	0	0
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Powell, F. W.	,,	32	0	0
Cilroen, L.	,,	136	0	0
Shanly, H.	,,	185	0	0
Tunna and Heale	,,	142	0	0
Tuteur, E. G.	,,	60	0	0
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Davis, D. L., and Bros.	,,	134	0	0
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Guntzburger, I.	Idar	178	0	0
Bodenheimer, Mrs. E.	Landau	63	0	0

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APPLICATIONS FOR DISCHARGE, &c.

CROUCH, Joseph M'Gregor, *Jeweler*, Regent-street, W., and elsewhere. In giving judgment in this case, the Registrar said that the conclusion arrived at in the Official Receiver's report was sustained by the fact that the debtor had not given notice to dispute. The books were defective, but only in a slight degree. The dividend paid to the creditors was a very substantial one, and the failure had been caused by no misconduct on the part of the debtor. He was of opinion that the ends of justice would be met by requiring the debtor to consent to judgment being entered up against him for £50. The discharge was accordingly granted, subject to this condition.

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Another Robbery of the Williamson Type.—While a brougham was standing outside the shop of Levy and Co., 9 and 10, Well-street, E.C., about five o'clock on the evening of the 17th ult., a cart drove up with two men, one of whom engaged the attention of the driver, while the other took from the vehicle three cases of French paste jewelry, valued at £400, and drove safely away with the booty. There is one consolation—the thieves will not be able to realise on it very quickly.

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An Example to Empresses.—It may be noticed that the German Empress often makes presents of clocks. It is said she is so methodical, and exact as to time, that she nearly always selects clocks for either wedding or birthday presents. We think it a capital idea, and hope other Empresses will follow the example, and that it will become quite the rage to emulate Royalty.

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Cycle Catalogue.—The "Reform" Cycle Co., Coventry, are just about to issue a new catalogue, in which their products are well illustrated, described, and priced. This company has branches and agencies in London, Paris, Copenhagen, and Melbourne.

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Precious Stones and the Press.—Speaking recently of the appropriateness of the chatoyant chrysoberyl—the cat's-eye—as a prize at the Crystal Palace Cat Show, the *World* treated its readers to some curious, we might say childish, information. Akin to it are the "moonstone," the "tiger's-eye," with its singular marking, the opal, the garnet, the "balas" ruby and the "star stone." (!!)

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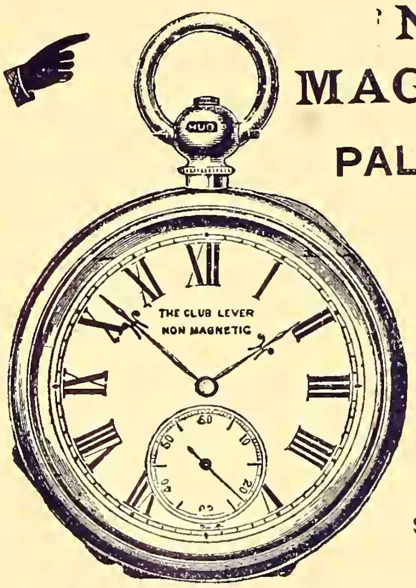

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PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, & DESIGNS.—Arrangements have been made with an expert whereby subscribers to this journal can receive information respecting these free of charge. Letters of inquiry must be addressed to the Editor of THE WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, AND SILVERSMITH, Patents, Trade Marks, and Design Department, 68, Fleet-street, London, E.C., and must in every case contain stamped and directed envelope for reply.

Served Him Right.—We live in the days of record beating, and we spare nothing to do it, even if it is only a fraction of a point; but of all the record beating in Jewelopolis that recently scored by Mr. J. W. Tonks for a seat in the City Council is without parallel. On this occasion the opponent secured only 272 votes, while the jewelers' patron came in with no less than 1,346. This says something for the popularity of this gentleman in the jewelers' ward, and when he is no longer with us, should we live long enough, we shall hear the old workers in the precious metals tell the young ones of the grand old days when, although we didn't care for ourselves, we had someone who was never tired of looking after our interests.

ENTRE NOUS
HARPOCRATES

BY THE EDITOR.

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THE YEAR PAST.

Business in General.

IT is next to impossible to summarise the state of trade during the year before the Christmas returns are ascertained, as these may materially influence the verdict we should be disposed to pronounce in view of the fact that there has been little extremely bad or thoroughly good during the rest of the year. That the year opened badly even the greatest optimist would admit; it was too closely associated with the previous year, when things were exceptionally bad, to be anything else. There is no doubt it is a healthy sign to be found grumbling; it indicates our desire to do more, and our determination not to stand still. It must be admitted that grumbling is not the real test of the state of trade. We never knew a period when we did not find ourselves complaining. We think, however, upon the whole, when we compare our very extensive observations of 1893 with 1892 the benefit must be given in favor of the former. That things have been very bad indeed in many parts for a considerable time at a stretch is certain; but when we consider all things, general business has really been better than might have been expected. It is when we compare the state of other countries with our own that we feel we have much for which to be thankful. When we turn to Switzerland and note the great falling off in the watch trade, to the closing down of the great American watch factories, to the extremely bad conditions in several of our principal colonies, to the silver crisis, and to all the horrors and disasters that have followed in the wake of the great coal war, we cannot help feeling surprised that we have come out so well.

Doubtless the great redeeming feature in the spring was the Duke of York's marriage, from which we, as a trade, certainly derived more benefit, both directly and indirectly, than did any other craft. There was also the opening of the Imperial Institute, and several other events which stimulated the jewelry trade. Of course a large share of this business fell into the hands of a few; but there was also a large share which was widely distributed; and more than once we heard a general improvement acknowledged all round. So that, although the year has not been a good one, we must all admit that it has been better than most people predicted, or than anyone could have reasonably expected.

The Indications of the Bankruptcies.

If we draw our conclusions from the Bankruptcy returns we should certainly pronounce a favorable verdict. With the exception of the Anglo-American failure, there has been scarcely anything of great importance. So far as deficit is concerned, most of the failures have been the result of bad management, or small matters, when the minus element was to be calculated by the hundreds of pounds. One feature, however, of the bankruptcies of 1893 which we must not pass over is that many of them were of the worst nature that has been known for many years; and it impresses upon us the necessity of speedy remedial legislation in many points of the existing law. It is true several convictions have resulted. Still, the difficulty of obtaining imprisonment in these cases is altogether harder than it ought to be. But these, of course, have nothing to do with the badness of trade, only inasmuch as their existence contributes to make otherwise good years bad. We have marked with pleasure the weekly returns, and have seen weeks in which the jewelry and fancy trades were represented by a single unit, when other industries have been represented by two figures, and there has usually been a great decrease compared with a corresponding period the previous year.

Jewelry, 1893.

It must be admitted that the struggle for existence all round gets greater and greater. New difficulties arise which were unknown only a few years ago, but upon the proper meeting of which depends our success either individually or collectively. That there has been an immense amount of enterprise and "push" exhibited in the jewelry trade must be patent to all, and those who cannot keep in the front ranks go quietly to the rear, or fall out altogether. When we see the great quantity of gems that have been employed in the face of unprecedented rises in price, we must acknowledge that the popular taste for jewels is not in the least on the wane. On the other hand, the desire for things new increases. Our "Notes about Town" each month always show something new, and the existence of an eager demand for novelty. When we draw a picture of the fashions of only twelve months ago, and realise for what a short space of time many of them floated in popularity before they sank into oblivion, it impresses upon us the great change that has come over business policy, and in the modern methods of money making. Altogether there are few, if any, years which can compare with 1893 in the production of jewelry in quantity, quality, and variety.

The Watch Trade.

The great event not only of the year, but possibly in the history of watchmaking in England, was the opening of the additions to the Prescot Watch Factory. In this act the whole question of English watchmaking was brought before the public in a manner that had never before been attempted. The absolute condition of the trade, and the scope it offered to the investor, were put forth by the Press of the kingdom in such a manner that it ought to be no difficulty in future to increase the capital stock of the Prescot Factory, should such a thing be requisite. This is not, perhaps, the place to go into this question, but one cannot help being impressed with the fact that the company have begun rather late, and hence are greatly handicapped in many ways, and it will require Herculean efforts for the infant to be able to compete with the full-grown man. Still, there is the other side of the question, and that is, that it stands practically in the position which cost the other factories decades of work and disappointments, to say nothing about cost, to attain. When the American factories started, their watches cost several times more than they do at the present. Still, Manager Hewitt is sanguine that in a short time he will be able to compete with the whole world. But a flourish of trumpets, however loudly blasted, is soon forgotten, unless it is followed up with action; and we therefore regard the manager's move in bringing the wonders of the mechanism of the horologer before the British Association for the Advancement of Science as second only in importance to the opening ceremony. It is only right that the achievements of such a skilful trade as horology should be duly represented in a gathering which represents the brains of the nation, and we hope that every year papers on these subjects will increase, until before long we shall see the addition of a new section at these annual gatherings—viz., horology. We are well aware of the fact that the watch city of Warwick could send in a number of eye-openers for many years to come, as could also our London friends; and horologers really ought to perceive with significance the marvellous strides which have been made of late years in various branches of science, some of which did not practically previously exist, through steps initially taken at these gatherings. Let anyone take up the early numbers of the "Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society," and compare them with the modern ones. In those days horological problems were considered worth the attention of scientists, from Newton downwards, but, alas! not so to-day. In almost every branch of science in this country the greatest amount of work has been done by the amateur; but in horology, with the exception of an extremely limited few, who could be counted on the fingers of one hand, there are no amateurs who have added to our direct knowledge in the science of measuring the hours. We hope that Manager Hewitt will follow up his paper next year by others, and that he will be run very closely, or even excelled, by several gentlemen from the city of Peeping Tom and the E.C. district of London.

1893 was also a record year at Kew, not only as regards a prodigious increase in the number of watches which obtained the coveted document, but in the number of marks attained, Messrs. Baume and Co. breaking the record with 91·9, and thus securing a third of a point over the previous record.

Birmingham, Sheffield, and Coventry Trade.

In the early part of the year great dissatisfaction was expressed in all three of these places. In Jewelopolis, however, a revival in the shipping trade was experienced during the second month, and it could not be said that the evil prognostications were realised in March, and up to the second week in April things went very well, nor were signs of absolute activity wanting. A share of the Royal trade worked its way down here, so that things were not so bad upon the whole; but before April was out a lull was more than perceptible in many quarters, which set in earlier than usual. The shipping trade had fallen off alarmingly, and grave fears were expressed as to the autumn trade, and everyone appeared to be inactive, and watching for something to appear, as the tightness of money necessitated great care. Of course many of the industries were greatly affected by the coal war, and many factories had to stand practically idle. With September came a distinct improvement, and things appeared hopeful, but the next month was not so good again, nor did November show any great things, nor even what was expected. So that on the whole things were no great sight better than in the year before. But December turned a really good month.

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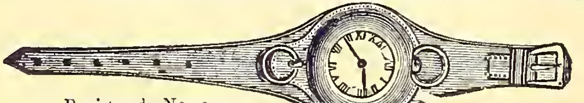

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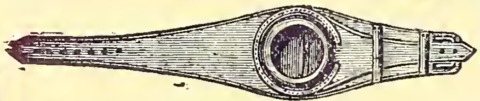

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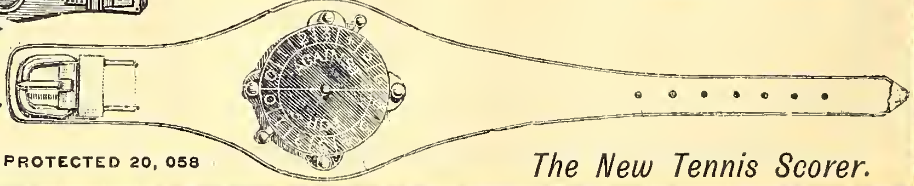

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The New Tennis Scorer.

the money were it not for the export trade, which forms an outlet for a large quantity of our productions, and indeed—as a country—it is the exports upon which we depend for our supply of new money. We cannot all live by taking in each other's washing, and hence the necessity for export trade, and also for everything that will give our productions a better chance in the competition for the world's market. Now, it was rather bad for Sheffield that several of the countries upon which she depended largely for her export trade were badly situated this year, so that things ebbed and flowed very much in the early part of the year. Before a permanent improvement had time to set in the coal war was upon them, and many of the factories were absolutely idle. So bad were things in general in Sheffield that a labor bureau was established, in which some six hundred men entered their names; but it will say something for the silver and E. P. trades when we observe that not one of the foregoing belonged to our ranks. Still, things for some months were greatly affected by the coal crisis, and upon the whole the year's trade was not so good as could have been desired. The silver trade maintained during the whole period its advance upon the E.P., and thousands of articles which were formerly plated are now made in the sterling metal.

Depending so much upon exports, Coventry naturally felt the pinch of the badness of the world's trade. Still, there was a good deal of business done, one way and another, and numerous efforts were put out, resulting in new productions, which cannot fail to influence future returns. Certainly the watch trade was less affected than some of the industries of the city of Peeping Tom.

A Trade Society.

One of the events of the year, so far as London is concerned, was the first meeting of a Trade Protection Society. The pros and cons. of this were pointed out by us at the time of its inception, and we also pointed out the lines upon which we considered it would have to develop to meet the needs of the case. We are, however, afraid that we pitched our standard too high, and that the fatherly—or rather brotherly—association which was the ideal of the original trade guilds has yet either to be born or developed. We are sure our friends on the committee will admit that whatever useful work they have done during the year, it concerns the members of the association more than the trade at large; and when we see the lines upon which it has been running we must ask those who predicted this state of things to wait awhile and see what will ultimately be done. Let us hope the society is gathering experience from which the trade will shortly profit. Of course it has been a little disappointing that the best has not been made of a number of opportunities which presented themselves during the year. But the members of the society are their own masters, and no one has a right to say "What doest thou?" We must watch, and if the association does not take the steps to secure those benefits for the trade we hoped it would, we must allow it to pursue its course on its own lines, and those who want anything different must do it themselves. At the same time we must say we would rather have seen the society run more upon the lines of the Birmingham Association; and if history is to be of any use to us, the day is coming when Birmingham will play London the same trick as America did Clerkenwell. Behold, now is the accepted time, not when Jewelopolis has got too far ahead of us.

A Trade Union.

1893 also saw the initiation of a Trade Union in our trade. It was not born in the gutter, and supported by anarchist firebrands, but it burst into blossom well supported by both masters and men. We repeat what we said on this subject in March last, that few of the well-disposed and straightforward members of the trade realise what is going on in the other and much larger part of it. We spoke to one of the oldest manufacturers about the union at the time of its inception, and he replied, "It is the only remedy. I regret the manufacturers have not been able to make the stand against these wretched cutters, who go round and offer to take work at two-thirds the price we pay our journeymen." We may deplore the lack of technical education in our workmen, but what can we expect for £1 or £1 5s. a week?—wages which to our personal knowledge are paid by firms which pose as first-class manufacturers; while other more honorable and fair-dealing ones are at their wits' end to understand the figures at which contracts are taken, and while endeavoring to pay their men a fair wage and compete for orders find themselves going to the wall. We must say we fear the stand against this state of affairs would never have originated with the manufacturers, and we regret it has been left to the men to make it. But the maximum good can still be made to result if the employers continue to support the union, and obtain a voice in its management.

Technical Education in 1893.

When a gas strike was threatened a rather selfish jeweler remarked that he didn't care a ——, as he used the electric light. It did not occur to him that a gas-engine was used to drive the dynamo. And there are many others who just as lightly treat the subject of technical education. They do not realise that it is the one great thing that separates the finest productions of the jeweler's art from the shell and tooth necklaces of the Australian aborigines. We maintain that every shilling well spent in technical education can be regarded at least as the premium of the life insurance of the trade. The more we are educated in the laws that underlie our craft the better article we can produce at a lower price, without injury to ourselves, and the more chance we have of securing and maintaining a position in the supply of the world's market. We are therefore pleased to see that the abused City Companies—although not yet our ideal—are doing a great deal for technical education, and are, we are informed, going to do much more. The classes at the Polytechnic in London, as well as at kindred Institutes throughout the kingdom, have done an exceptionally good work during the year. On all sides men are realising the paramount necessity of this qualification for the struggle for existence and supremacy. Up to the present we regret that other places are far behind Birmingham in this respect, and we sometimes fear that it would only be when the trade had quietly slid to Jewelopolis that some people would realise that they had in Birmingham facilities for turning out jewelry unobtainable in London; and then, for the first time, would they realise the value of technical education.

The Precious White Metal.

A retrospect of the year would not be complete without reference to the marvellous change in the price of silver which has been effected through legislation, both in this country and in America. All the main features connected with this unparalleled episode in the history of the precious white metal have been kept before our readers, and as there is nothing in the visible horizon at the present moment to lead us to expect any further great change, either one way or the other, we do not think it necessary to go further into the matter. Meanwhile we look with interest upon American legislation, which may still further influence the price of silver.

A "PHANTOM GONG."

A COMMUNICATION of a somewhat unique nature was recently made in the *St. James's Gazette*, and upon it followed a discussion and comments in all parts of the country; and although it is a subject more fitting perhaps for Mr. Stead or the Psychical Research Society than a trade journal, there are some points in it of a decided importance to anyone connected in any way with the horologer's art. The main facts as vouched for by apparently highly trustworthy persons are these: A lady, wishing to make a present to someone, repairs to a firm in Cheapside, who trade under the well-known name of Benetfink and Co., and, amongst the thousands of things there to be seen, is arrested by the sweet tones of a gong of a certain clock, from which she decides to purchase the timester. When the clock gets home it manages not only to obtain an inordinate appreciation of its detail of structure, but the sonorous beauty of the gong upon which the hours and half-hours were struck was borne out on the air in such surprising volume as to command the attention of the whole household. Even the first servant who heard it was so struck by the beauty of the sounds of the new comer as to go and fetch up cook to hear it. Thus things went on for some months, till one day a solemn silence reigned around, for the gong ceased to vibrate at the hours and half-hours. Accordingly the clock was returned to Messrs. Benetfink for the striking arrangement to be put right. In a few days the timepiece was returned, and the beautiful expression in the eyes of the chiselled female figure, which was fixed over the dial, once more admired. When, however, the new hour arrived it was ushered in in silence, much to the chagrin of the owners, who accordingly wrote off immediately to the City firm demanding the reason why the gong was yet silent. Then followed correspondence, interviews, and researches, Messrs. Benetfink submitting a letter from the French makers stating that the case had been fitted with a non-striking movement, that it was too small and presented physical impossibilities for a gong, that the original photograph of the timepiece, from which it was selected by the London firm, only showed one wind hole, and that comparison of the latter with the timepiece as it now stands clearly showed that no alteration had since been made. Moreover, the salesman who sold the timepiece was called, who said that he always scratched his initials and the date on the movements of all clocks he sold, and made no exception in this case, thereby precluding the possibility of a change of the movement. All these facts Messrs. Benetfink stand by on the one hand, while on the other all the witnesses attest to having admired the sound of the gong from the first time of hearing it, and that there is no other clock in the house for which it could be mistaken; and the house is detached to such an extent that Big Ben could not be heard if struck in the next habitation!

Suggestions in explanation, of course, could be made by the score, but they would be worthless in the absence of seeing the timepiece. Either there is some defect in Messrs. Benetfink's evidence of the movement not being changed, or it is a case for the Psychical Research Society, as are some others quoted by correspondents of clocks having been heard to strike where no clock existed. Still it is as well to bear the features of this remarkable story in mind, in case its parallel should occur at any time, and a tradesman be mulct in serious damages on the words of a witness, which, however conscientiously given, are nevertheless not infallible.

HE WHO ROBS ME OF MY GOOD NAME, ETC.

We are often asked to account for our lack of public spirit in not challenging the many unscientific and misleading absurdities which find their way into the public press. But our answer is that people must take the consequence of following their selected guides; and sooner or later this unscientific rubbish must find its own level. So long as it is merely scientific inaccuracy we are tempted to let it pass. But recently Mr. Streeter has been writing to the papers in a manner which, in our opinion, seriously reflects on the honor of trade at large. Such being the case, we are tempted to say something on the subject. We admire all legitimate attempts to boom a given article, but when this is done at the expense of another's "respectability," it is a very different matter. Writing in the *Queen*, he says:—

> Your contributor, "Modiste," in your issue of the 18th ult., refers to the revival of some of the old stones which were in fashion in generations past. This, I am pleased to say, I have been successful in doing with the chrysoprase, the charming apple-green stone worn some three-quarters of a century ago. This is a real stone, and I am sure your contributor would not wish to recommend anything that was not real. The red and the white cornelian are real stones, but the golden is dyed cornelian, not the natural stone; therefore a first-class jeweler with a reputation to lose does not care to sell it, except as dyed stones.

Now this last paragraph sets forth the very serious allegation that "the golden is dyed cornelian, not the natural stone," and that "a first-class jeweler with a reputation to lose does not care to sell it, except as dyed stones." In another paper he says: "I believe *all* the golden cornelian now offered is merely white cornelian stained." Here is given a test for respectability; the public have only to go in and ask if the article marked "Golden Cornelian" is white cornelian stained, and if assured it is not, they know the verdict. Now, as to the reality of the existence of golden cornelian let us turn to the book which bears Mr. Streeter's name, and upon which his reputation as an authority is mainly based, pages 236-7:—"Cornelian varies in color from blood-red to wax-yellow." "The jewelers and lapidaries distinguish the different kinds of cornelian by the following names: 1st, Masculine, or cornelian of old stone, dark red. 2nd, Feminine, pale red, passing into yellow. 3rd, Sard, brown, passing into Pomeranian and yellow. 4th, Sardonyx, when layers of Sard (*i.e.*, brown or yellow) alternate with layers of white. 5th, Cornelian Onyx, blood-red stripes playing into white. 6th, Cornelian Beryl, a whitish yellow variety." Here we are told that, instead of golden cornelian not being the natural stone but a dyed one, the greater part of the varieties are of that hue. Honorable jewelers who know the range of hues in chalcedony may treat these communications with contempt, but the public naturally come to the conclusion that they must be correct or jewelers would not allow their honor to be thus outraged. We stood outside an establishment in Piccadilly the other day, looking at what was marked up "Golden Cornelian," and heard a gentleman observe to a lady, "Oh, this fellow is a fraud, Streeter says that's only dyed cornelian." Had we not heard this we might still have held our tongue. But it is evident that the conspiracy of silence ought no longer to be maintained at the cost of respectable people's honor and trading. Mr. Streeter would have shown himself a much better gemmologist and a man of light and leading if he had pointed out what was the difference between dyed chalcedony and "golden cornelian," and how the former could be tested, and its true nature revealed. But no! We consider his note in the *Queen* a cruel onslaught on the honor of other people, some of whom possibly know considerably more of the subject than their accuser, and the trade ought to demand a public and sufficient apology from him.

Technical Education.—We are pleased to announce that Mr. Stapelton's classes at the Polytechnic, Regent-street, W., on goldsmiths' work re-commence on January 12th. We wish him every success.

A Windfall for Our Charities.—We are informed that the late Miss Collier, of Alfred-street, Islington, has bequeathed to the Clock and Watchmakers' Asylum, and the Watch and Clockmakers' Pension Society, £112 each.

The Late Professor Tyndall.—This is not, of course, the place where one would expect to find a biographical notice of a great scientist, still we should be extremely ungrateful to this great prince of science if we allowed his melancholy death to pass unnoticed. John Tyndall was a self-made man, who did not even know when he was born, but by his ceaseless energy he rose to the pinnacle of fame, through the importance and originality of his researches; and amongst these, many are important to various branches of our trades, notably his profound researches into magnetism, while his optical researches in their connection with gems are invaluable. If any of our readers are still mystified about this subject, the clear works of Tyndall will dispel the haze. Sad to say, he died at the ripe old age of seventy-three (as near as is known) from an accidental overdose of chloral.

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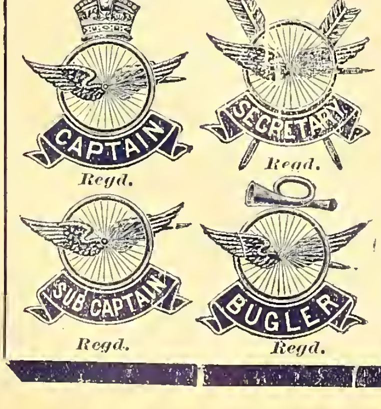

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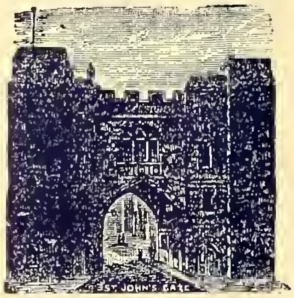

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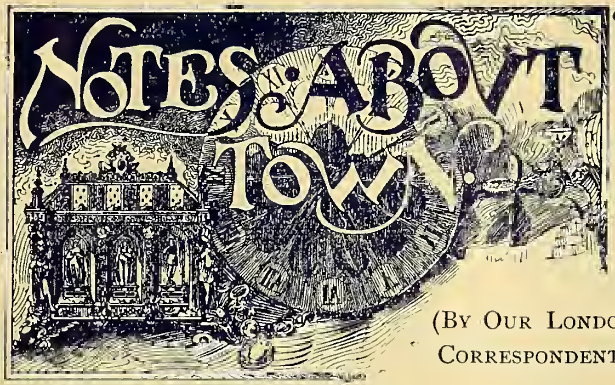

(By Our London Correspondent.)

The Christmas displays of jewelry and artistic silverware were fully up to the mark this year, but, if anything, more distributed. There was an unusual number of claimants for patronage, and the money-spending public, not finding themselves galloping in hot haste at a game of follow-my-leader, must have experienced some little difficulty in making their selections. I do not remember having seen such a number of expensive collections of beautiful objects embracing so many branches of the trade. On the whole the articles were not so exclusively "Christmassy" as usual. It is all very well in selecting complimentary cards to have one for Christmas and another for the New Year; the mission of these articles ends with the receipt of them; but it is not so with a jewel: no one can afford to buy a jewel for Christmas, and throw it away as it meets the eye of the other face of Janus. It always was a ridiculous custom, and people who have been once a victim to it, and realised their folly when a few weeks afterwards their brooch or bracelet was out of place and unwearable, are not caught the second time.

When the 1888 jewelry came out its symmetry commanded admiration, and when the year had passed it did not look so very much out of place, but as soon as the before-named fact was realised year-bearing objects were avoided. Still, there is some lovely date jewelry to be seen; flexible bracelets with the year in Roman letters set in diamonds or colored gems, on which the letters form the links coupled by others of plain wire, such as trace or cable. This year the sides of these Egyptian fount Roman letters ("block," as they are often erroneously called) are enamelled, in the now pinnacle of fashion style, and imposing articles they certainly present; and, what is more, some of them sell, as the young lady accepts it from sentiment, or something else, in commemoration of the year in which she was engaged or married.

There are fewer recourses to the cold Christmas emblems, holly and mistletoe, although almost every jeweler shows some articles inspired by these objects, sacred of yore. But, on the whole, they are less than the exhibits of last year, which says something, for few of them are new, and have only been resuscitated for the Christmas displays; and, if not sold, they will probably be made to hibernate for another ten months, and thus lock up capital which might be put to more profitable employment.

Notwithstanding this there is a very wintry aspect in the display. The colossal suns which last season were blazing away all over windows are now low on the horizon, or even below it out of sight. The majority of the swallows have taken flight, and migrated to more congenial climes. Patterns are now more geometrically inclined (save the mark!)—at any rate, I do not know what to call them—"tangential geometric," or perhaps some would call them fly-a-way anti-geometric. There is also an indication of the setting in of scrolls and bobbing pendants, such as were in full vogue in the days of the first Exhibition.

But the greatest luminary of the season is the new crescent. It abounds in every stock of the least importance upwards, and is as varied as it is sometimes chaste and charming. This transparent enamel is too beautiful not to take, and the various designs that are introduced are legion. Now it is a careless wavy bow, in diamonds, in the centre, which with the enamel and gold spots or stars of the crescent looks very effective, and at the same time chaste. The little favorites of every house are introduced into this position, whether it be a leaf, a flower, an insect, a reptile, or a scroll. To add that element which is said to constitute a charm, comic figures both in enamels and stones are being introduced.

There is no doubt that any novelty which has the element of luck fathered upon it has the greatest chance in the struggle for existence in jewelry. It was the talismanic properties of jewels that first commended them to the minds of the wearers, and to-day there are thousands of wearers of these articles, who would be mightily offended at being regarded as superstitious, who still talk of, and firmly believe in, luck in jewels and horseshoes, and in these it will last to death. Conscious of this fact, a foremost West End jeweler, who usually has the greatest run of popular novelties, has selected from the repertory of fate determiners "the Lucky Jack Bean." This is nothing more than the humble broad bean, which Hodge in the days of fourteen children on 7s. a-week might have considered lucky to be able to get with a bit of bacon once a week. It was hardly regarded as lucky, however, when used as an article of prison diet! Still, there is a good deal in a name, and "Lucky Jack Beans" will doubtless claim as many patrons as any of their "lucky" predecessors. Then they are made in a variety of articles, and usually enclosed in a case in the shape of a bean pod, thus adding another element of novelty. Of course, bean links have been made for—well, I don't know how many years, but certainly, as long as I can remember; and they have also come in for a share of favor: not because of the luck element, but because they are less destructive to the shirt than many other patterns, and certainly more easily manipulated.

Chrysoprase is very popular still, and new combinations and patterns that are daily appearing show how very suitable is this stone, and how artistically it lends itself and combines or contrasts with pleasing effects with many gems and enamel. The introduction of emeralds is an example. Here the light waxy green of the quartz contrasts with and emphasises the darker hue and more vitreous lustre of the emerald. This makes the gem appear far more beautiful and valuable. Rubies also contrast in an exceedingly pleasing manner, and lend themselves to some very rich-looking combinations. As for transparent enamels in cherry-red and green, they are the one thing needful.

It is impossible to describe all the novelties that have appeared in the above combinations. Dragon and other kinds of flies and reptiles of various descriptions, scrolls, leaves and flowers, and geometric designs all swell up the ranks of the Christmas chrysoprase army. As might be expected, such things as hearts enter in battalions; now they are surrounded with rubies or emeralds with good effect, and now with diamonds, when the effect is not so pleasing. These are sometimes surmounted with a flambeau, at others with a coronet. Now they are some modification of the double-heart and tie, or have a bow of gems passing through them. Yet again, it is delicately poised on the bottom horn of one of the new crescents in cherry-red enamel.

Turning to fichus; hearts, in the apple-green opaline-chalcedony, are placed obliquely upon a gold bar with ball ends in the former material. In others, trefoils, either leaf-shape or globular, with a stem of gems, are arranged in a variety of ways. Some of the trefoils and quatrefoils are an inch across. There are also a number of marquise rings, and three and five stone half-hoops, made with the green stone and gems.

Everywhere there is an increase of colored stones. One leading firm shows a lot of wire bangles with hearts and other devices in chrysoprase, amethysts, and a variety of other colored stones,and marks them up "The new semi-precious stone jewelry," but, as they run to a piece of paper in price, assuredly the title is not well chosen, especially as diamond, ruby, and other gem bracelets are advertised at the same price.

Had the Montana ruse turned out what some people were ill-informed enough to imagine it was going to do, what a glorious harvest the company would now be able to make! I am very sorry it has not, as some Montana colored corundums are very lovely. But gems, like pictures, require understanding, in fact more so; they are the raw materials of pictures, and I must confess that many of the combinations that I have seen in this Renaissance of colored gems are infinitely more outrageous of the principles of Art than are the productions of the pavement chalker. Surely some of the gewgaws of every color set in wet-colored settings that one sees were never intended for anything but for the ornamentation of burlesque actresses!

Apropos of the colored stones, and the fashion for gentlemen to have a variety of pins, an enterprising prominent West End house shows a case of thirty-one pins, all different stones, from diamond to malachite, for £25. I am afraid there are very few in the trade who could name thirty-one stones correctly, but the proprietor of this establishment has made a special study of them, and although he does not pose as "an expert of experts," probably knows more about gems than they who do.

This reminds me of a little incident that has occurred since my last notes. A foreign gentleman of Semitic origin presented himself at the office of one of the largest firms in the diamond trade, and solicited an offer for a lovely crystal, of exceptionally fine shape, lustre and color, that he had just brought straight from the South African diamond mines. But its perfection sorely tried the appraising capabilities of the firm, who after two hours' deliberation, and testing it in all the ways known to them, ultimately took the specific gravity of it, which confirmed the opinion that it was a diamond. However, there was something that caused some little doubt to rise, and the firm forthwith sent the owner with his treasure to an expert (a mineralogist) to ascertain the adamantine nature of the beautiful crystal. But the scientist was not what some picture such a man, a formulæ-headed old fogey; but a man of common sense, and in reply to the query as to whether it was a diamond immediately demanded whence it came, and from what mine? The former question was readily answered, but when particulars were pushed a little closer, it became evident that it was more than possible that this stone had not passed through the hands of the Great Combine, or any other recognised board. Upon further inquiries being made its owner affirmed that this big firm had tried everything they knew, and had been two hours in doing so, and were then left in doubt. "Well," said the expert, "let us try the most simple test first. May I test its hardness?" and leave having been obtained, he took out a file and made a small gutter down it like that in the so-called "Mattam diamond." "Do you mean to tell me," said the mineralogist, "that that represents the amount of knowledge in the diamond trade? that one of its largest firms don't know a diamond from a bit of glass! Or that you have got hold of it without knowing the difference—well—well—there's something wrong somewhere!" He might have meant with the firm's judgment, or that the fraud was intended to take in that unscrupulous generation of vipers, known as I.D.B.!

Since reading your article in last month's journal on the Hungarian opal, I see it has made its appearance in several West End establishments, and a lovely stone it is. It is the stone they are calling Golden Cornelian. Mr. Streeter has been treating the public to some literature on this stone, fitter to go with his Montana and Burma utterances.

Turning to silversmithy, I hardly know where to begin. What lots of dainty things there are to be seen, and what novel ideas some of them are! The workers of the precious white metal have seized a tight grip on the new twist wire, and scores of articles in it are to be seen, picture frames, stationery articles, trays, liqueur or other sorts of stands and articles too numerous to detail. They are very pretty and strong, and after all not very expensive.

Talking of stands reminds me of what a number of these there are now being sold. There are now tea stands, which have been evolved from the sugar and creams; where two plates, one for cake and the other for bread and butter, are mounted like the plates in a dessert stand; then near the handle are tea pot, sugar and cream, and in a semi-circle springing at the side neatly repose the cups.

Another is the after-dinner set; this contains small coffee pot, milk and sugar, four or six small cups, two or three liqueurs, half-a-dozen liqueur glasses, cigars, cigarettes, ash-stands and matches. Some are not so elaborate as this, but like the foregoing are usually made of the twisted wire pattern.

The long narrow trays with crumpled edges, and ends turned round in a paper scroll to serve as handles, are multiplying. These serve either for five o'clock or after-dinner sets.

Liqueurs, generally of reeded glass and extremely attenuated designs, are also multiplying, and used either with the foregoing, or with trays composed of a glass bottom, and a gilt horseshoe as an edge.

The Most Complex Watch in the World.—We were recently permitted through the kindness of Messrs. Stauffer, Son and Co., Charterhouse-street, to handle what is acknowledged to be the most complex watch ever yet made. So many features has it that, as we did not make a complete set of notes of them, we are sure we shall forget some of the marvels of this production of six years' work. It is a 22 line in size, and the quality of the cases is also represented by the same figures; it is crystal faced, and the works are also protected by a vitreous cover; so that upon opening the case the mechanism can be seen and admired without fear of damp, dust or damage. It is of keyless action, and the whole of its various motions are wound from the same winder, the different trains, etc., being variously operated upon by a very simple arrangement of levers, about which, of course, it is necessary to know something. It is a clock-watch, minute and quarter repeater, with an incredibly loud alarum. Then comes the perpetual calendar, showing several things not usually seen on the watch dial—days of the week, days of the month, etc. Then come the phases and age of the moon. But complications do not stop here. In addition to the ordinary second, minute, and hour dial there is a duplex dial giving independent time, and an extraordinary thermometer indicating degrees by a hand on a small dial. But to continue the complexity, it is also a chronograph both minute and second—or rather to fifth seconds; and to complete the latter it has also a split action. There is a theory that all great men are cranks of a kind, and really nothing but an extraordinary enthusiasm, which if carried to the same extent in some other directions would have been regarded as a species of insanity, would have buoyed up the maker of this horological prodigy through the series of failures he must have had, and many startings again, and fresh measurements, as the additions of new complications required fresh room. It is very different from duplicating a thing that has been made before, or slightly improving upon one which has already been produced. Practically all the measurements had to be made *de novo*, and we can only say we wish it had been in existence years ago, when on several occasions we knew of customers who wanted "the best watch in the world."

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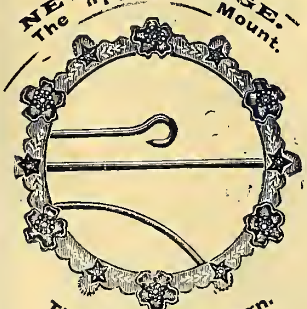

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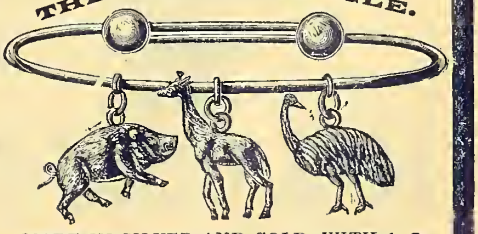

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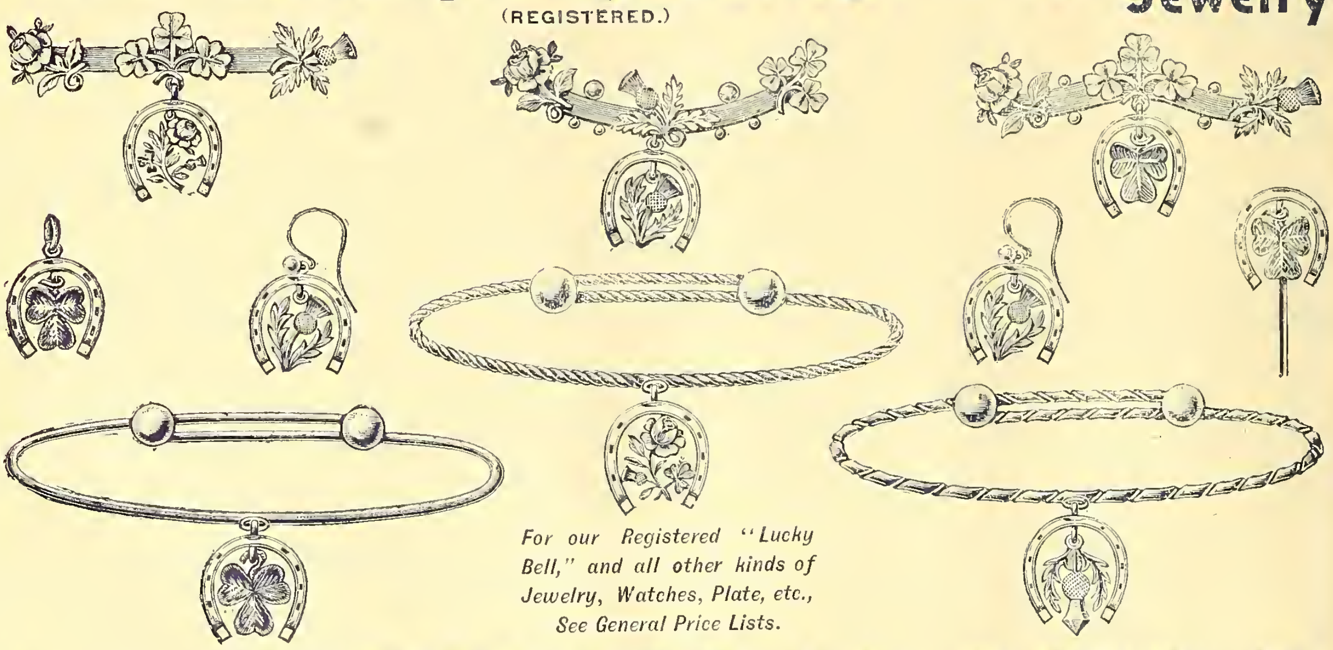

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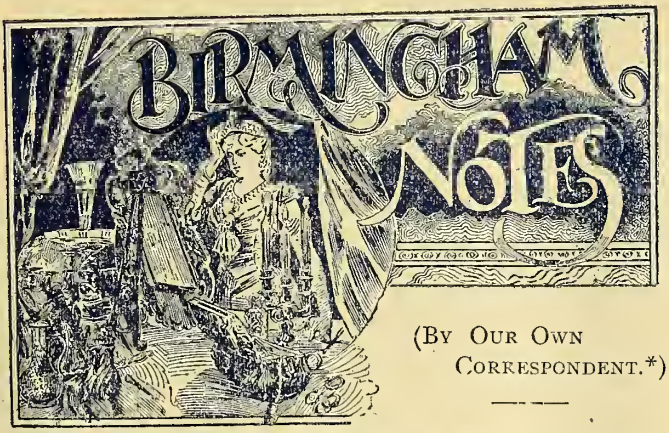

BIRMINGHAM NOTES

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.*)

THE record for December may be summed up in two words—very good. Orders, jobs, and approbation have come in with a steady progressive flow right up to Christmas, and everyone in the swim has had plenty to do. Unfortunately many firms have been frightened or partially crippled by the long depression, and have allowed their stocks to fall far below their normal average at this season, and this has no doubt prevented many from reaping so good a harvest as they otherwise would have done. The course of business has practically verified the forecast which I made in my November Notes. I then wrote: "If anything like a favorable change occurs those makers who carry large stocks will doubtless manage to put through a considerable number of sales; but for the small capitalist working from hand to mouth the opportunity to execute a rush of orders is almost gone." This is just what has happened. The small maker in most instances has had his few weeks' rush, and in many cases factors complain that they have been unable to get sufficient of certain lines. On the other hand, holders of big stocks have done very well, and in some cases have been making overtime to keep up the supply.

So far, then, we may consider the results of the month to be satisfactory in all respects but one, and that is as regards profits. It is unquestionable that the total amount spent on jewelry is as large as ever and probably larger, but the great influx of people into the trade, combined with improved methods of production, have resulted in such an immense volume of supply that it is impossible to find a market for all that could be produced, and so we encounter long periods of depression, during which prices get forced down almost to cost, and occasionally below. When a temporary revival occurs trade is done on the basis of these depressed prices, and whatever money the small manufacturer then makes is generally lost during the next depression. Possibly we may expect an improvement in this respect to gradually come about, but certainly there are no indications of anything of the sort so far. Indeed, competition has never been so keen as during the year which has just closed.

MAKERS of silver goods have all been very busy during the month. Doubtless the steadying effect of the repeal of the Sherman Act has had a good deal to do with this, for, as I pointed out in a former Note, the trade had been in a very unsettled condition, although many manufacturers were busier than usual. The number of electro-platers who have taken up silver during the last two or three months must ultimately tend to make that branch of the trade very bad, but that is rather a question for the immediate future. At present the demand for silver goods is certainly greater than the supply, and the possibilities seem almost endless, for with silver at a low figure, as now, it is likely to be applied to the manufacture of the most every-day articles.

As I forecast last month, the old Sheffield creditors of Gilpin have made good their claim to the assets in the present bankruptcy as soon as they are realised. The judge sympathised with the local creditors, but of course he could do nothing, as he has simply to administer the *law*, which in this instance does not happen to be synonymous with *justice*.

THE retirement of Mr. William Russell, of Northampton-street, removes one of the most familiar figures of the jewelers' quarter from our midst. The sale of his plant, which took place early in the month, was well attended, and there was a keen competition for most of the lots, so that the total result must have been very satisfactory, especially considering the depressed state of trade amongst the manufacturers. Mr. Russell has always upheld the best interests of the trade by producing good and well-finished work, and for this reason, if for no other, all who know him will join in heartily wishing him many years of well-earned enjoyment and repose.

MR. ALLEN EDWARDS has been distributing the bills in Messrs. Sloane and Carter's composition, so that another stage in the matter has been passed and nothing now remains but that the instalments should be met in due season. It is to be hoped that trade will improve during the next few months sufficiently to enable them to do this.

MANY rumors of a disquieting nature have been in circulation during the month, and in one or two instances names of firms said to be on the verge of a stoppage were actually mentioned. Whatever may be in store for us I don't think there is anything wrong with the houses now in question, and I should rather ascribe the reports in circulation to the perverted ingenuity of some of the second-rate travellers, who seem to delight in inventing the most ridiculous *canards*.

I MUST record a strong protest against inventions of this kind, as they are often calculated to produce the effect which they profess to relate and in any case contribute to aggravate an already sufficiently bad state of trade by causing widespread feelings of alarm and uneasiness. It would be no bad thing if one or two of these unprincipled scandalmongers could be brought to book; it might, perhaps, put a damper on a reckless and dangerous practice.

THE disappearance of the old firm of Thomas Prime and Sons, silversmiths and electro-platers, illustrates very forcibly the great change which has come over every branch of the trade during the last ten or fifteen years. It has been an era of keen and ever-increasing competition, marked by failures and other changes of so radical a character that every firm has been more or less altered; indeed, nothing but the most uncompromising energy has enabled the majority of businesses to weather the storm.

MANY of my readers will remember when Prime's works were situated in Northwood-street, in the very premises now occupied by Mr. Lionel Blanckensee. From there they moved to the establishment in Ryland-street, which has just been sold by auction.

BUT although it has vanished from the commercial arena the name of Prime will be for ever preserved in the history of Birmingham trade, for it was the firm of Prime and Son which in 1844 constructed the *first* magnetic machine that ever deposited silver. It was invented by John Stephen Woobrich, also a Birmingham man, who turned to practical account the discovery of induction by Michael Faraday. Primes were thus the introducers of electro-plate, and the historic machine, a rude prototype of the powerful dynamos of to-day, with which they laid the basis of their fortune, is now to be seen in the Museum of Aston Hall, having been presented by the firm to the City Council.

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

My position as a recorder of current events compels me to refer once more to a matter I would willingly let drop. It is said that there is a probability of the case of F. J. Carter being taken up by the Public Prosecutor, and I am certain that, if true, this will be good news to those who are anxious to free the trade of an undesirable class of traders.

Although we are now in the midst of the long nights, I regret to learn that the efforts to provide the jewelers' quarter with extra police protection have so far been unsuccessful. One or two firms have burglar alarms in telephonic communication with Kenion-street Police Station, some others reside on their premises, and many of the remainder have resident caretakers; so for the most part these sections consider themselves tolerably secure and decline to contribute the trifling sum (7s. 6d. per annum, I believe) which it has been found necessary to demand of them. In the face of the numerous, well equipped and daring criminals who abound in all great centres of population one would think 7s. 6d. per annum well spent to make assurance doubly sure, but it appears that many think otherwise or are content to meanly avail themselves of the benefits of the expenditure of others. I trust those who are now holding aloof will reconsider their attitude and give their adhesion to a scheme which otherwise seems doomed to failure.

I hear that Messrs. S. Blanckensee and Son, Limited, Frederick-street, are having a large demand for their new "Bridesmaids' jewelry," which promises to be as successful as their registered "Alpine Bell" designs.

A word of warning may not be amiss to the many who sell their goods on cards printed *Government* hall-marked and such like legends. The goods are *not Government* hall-marked, and to call them so is a *false trade description* under the Merchandise Marks Act of 1887, for which both *maker and seller* are liable to a penalty not exceeding £20 for each offence. The point is, perhaps, rather a fine one, but the fact remains that offenders lay themselves open to a prosecution which would inevitably be successful, and involve them in considerable trouble and expense. Of course the chances are that action may never be taken in such a matter, but is it worth while taking the slightest risk when there is absolutely no necessity to do so?

I notice a very artistic innovation in the decoration of bracelets, sleevelinks, and other small articles. It consists in covering, or partially covering, the surface to be ornamented with an "all over" pattern in minute chasing. One almost microscopic detail is taken and repeated as many times as is necessary to cover the space. The general effect, which is very striking, reminds me strongly of the Japanese manakiji or fish-roe work, which no doubt furnished the idea. The introducer will doubtless meet with the large demand which his ingenuity merits. It is no easy task to hit upon a novelty nowadays, and those who do so ought to reap considerable benefit therefrom.

I am very sorry to have to record the death of C. W. S. Deakin, which took place on December 17th. Mr. Deakin, who was well known and respected by the whole trade, was the founder of the present great firm of Deakin and Francis, Regent-place, but he had retired from active business for some years. He represented St. Paul's Ward on the City Council for twelve years, but his failing health compelled him to retire some two years ago and his place was taken by Councillor G. H. Johnstone. The deceased gentleman was seventy-four years of age.

OUR SPECIAL PLATE.

Fig. 1. Design for brooch or chatelaine in repousse and enamel. The ground should be pale blue or French grey. When used as the former the pendants would not appear, and if for the latter they would be lengthened.

Fig. 2. Design for brooch, which lends itself to a variety of treatment. The knot could be in gems and the leaves in enamel and the solitaires pearls, or it could be carried out entirely in diamonds or enamel.

Fig. 3. Design for lily of the valley brooch; the leaves to be enamelled *au naturel*, the drooping flowers to be composed of pear-shaped pearls; the knot could be either in gold or gems.

Fig. 4. Design for one of the elegant monograms now coming into fashion for a variety of purposes. The letters representing L. P. in *half* carving.

Fig. 5. Design for a gem pendant. The former member should be set with cabochon cut rubies with rose points, the centre a step cut ruby; the solitaires are pearls, the drops diamonds, or the whole could be carried out in diamonds and pearls.

Fig. 6. Design for a monogram of J.G., whole carved, one letter being dry and the other wet colored.

Fig. 7. Design for a chatelaine. The scroll shield at the top to take a monogram or crest, either carved, engraved, or enamelled. The ribbon should be of gold, and would receive mobility, by rings above and below. Upon the plaque are represented the setting sun, the rising moon, and stars, and the legend "Tempus fugit" indicative of the passage of the hours. This last could be either carved or enamel. It will be seen that by a spry arrangement any trinket can be suspended, the seal and key shown being of the new twist wire patterns. The watch is suspended from the centre.

Fig. 8. Design for one of the new wire cypher monograms, G. P.

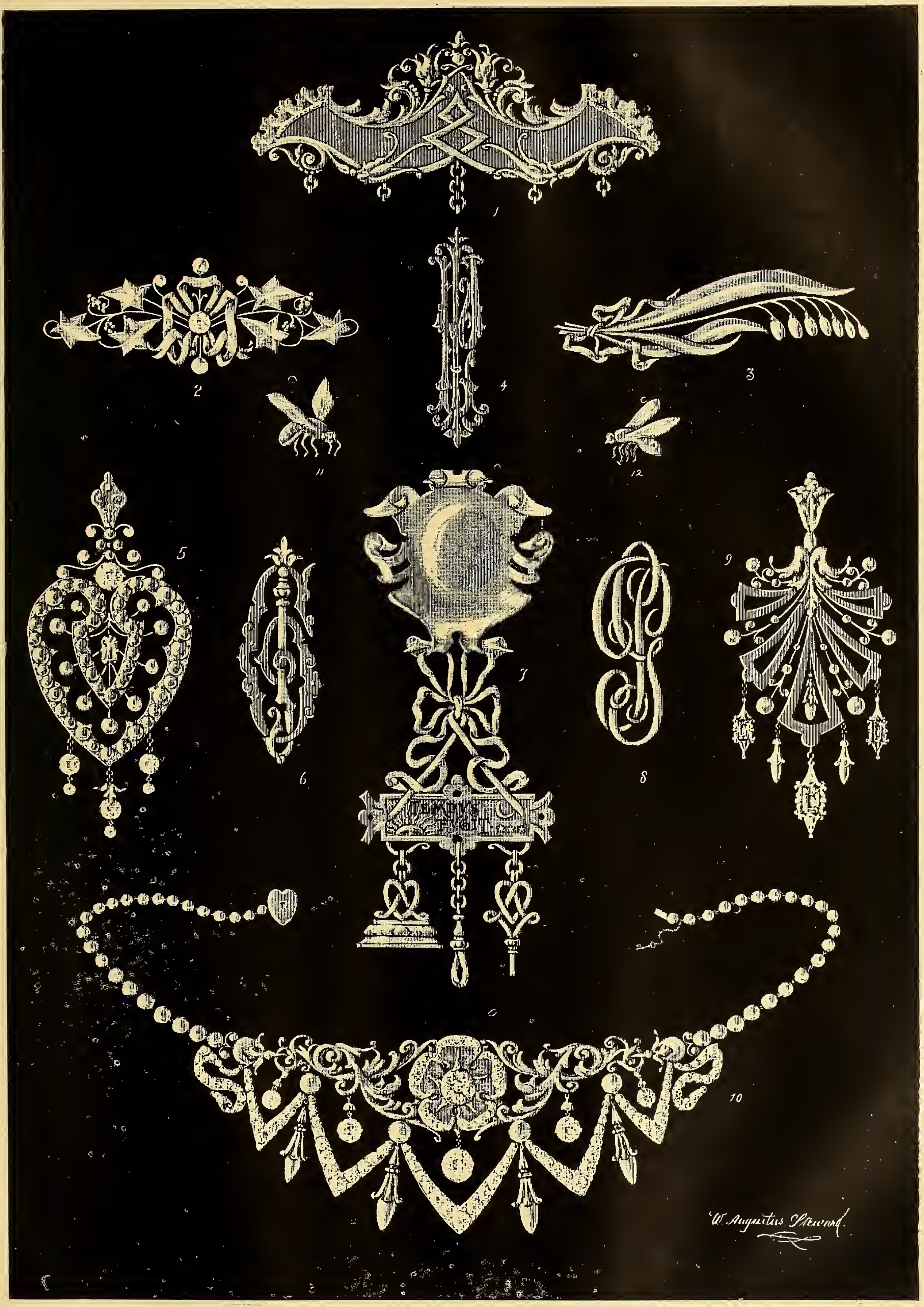
Fig. 9. Design for pendant in gems and line enamels.

Fig. 10. Design for necklet in enamel, pearls, and diamonds. By the Tudor rose we should have the ground enamelled a pale pink, which would relieve the centre; turned edges, and the scroll ornament holding the centre should be in diamonds (which could be detached and used as a brooch or head-dress); the scroll should be flushed with variegated enamel. The festoons and upper drops should also be in diamonds, the lower drops or pendants should be gold above, with a touch of enamelling on the beads. The drops should be of French grey enamel.

Figs. 11 and 12. Designs for pins in flies, for enamel or stones.

Women as Watchmakers.—Two well-known ladies, Misses Emily Faithfull and Amy Hurlston, have recently been writing on the above subject. The former has some high compliments for Prescot, the latter treats the subject more exclusively. The general tenor of her remarks can be imagined from the opening sentences. "Amongst the most desirable trades which have recently been opened up to women in the slowly but surely widening field of labor, probably that of watchmaking is so far the least known, and deserves the most attention. To-day, and under existing conditions, watchmaking is unquestionably the trade for women having a taste for simple mechanics." She then goes on to deprecate the "genteel" idea that is associated with certain thimble-wriggling trades, and advocates the claims of women as watchmakers.

"**The Perfect Brooch.**"—Since Mr. Langdale, of 7, Caroline-street, Birmingham, patented this brooch, he has vastly improved on the first design. The brooches, whether in gold, silver, or gilt, are manufactured throughout on the premises. The flanged plates with grooved sides are now dispensed with, and the joint and fastening are but one half the size of the original patent, which fact renders the invention most suitable even in the case of the lightest patterns. We understand that the patentee is able to put this new joint on the market at the same price as the old one. The improved joint is practically unbreakable—it is more elegant, yet stronger—and constitutes a marked improvement both with respect to its simplicity and desirability. We have recently inspected a large variety of new patterns in gilt which will probably command extensive sales, as they are of excellent finish.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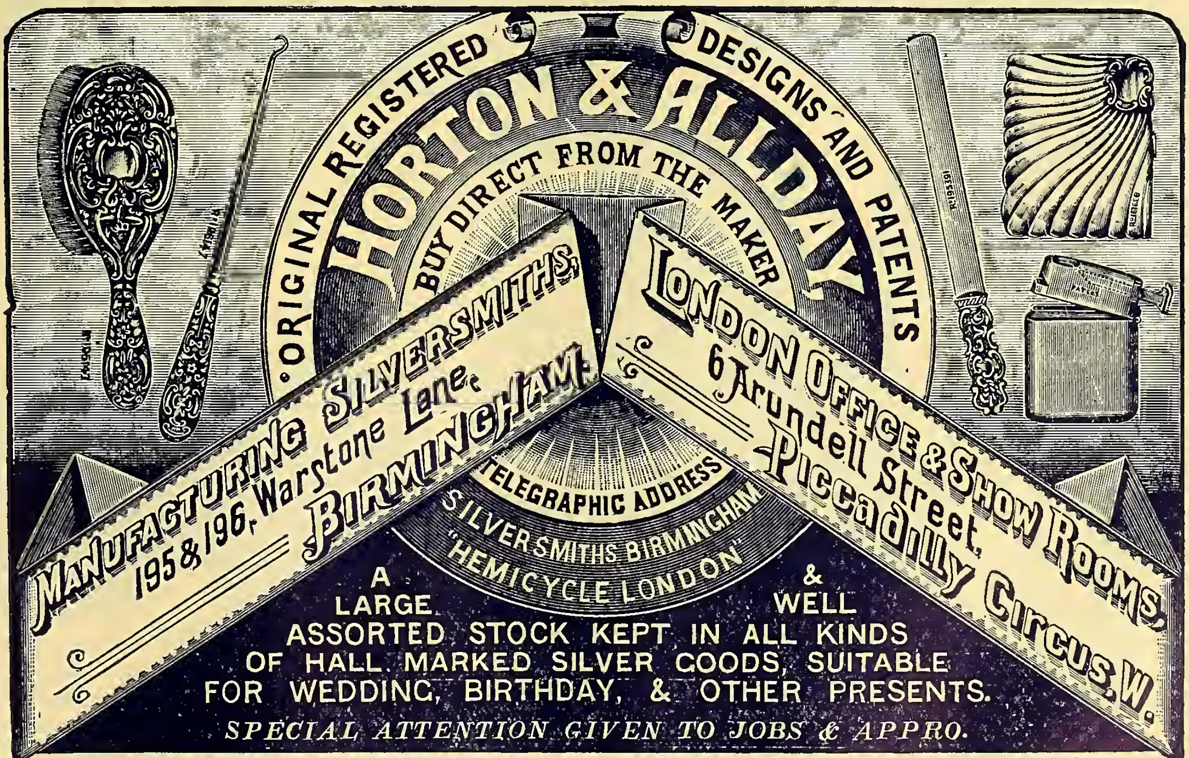

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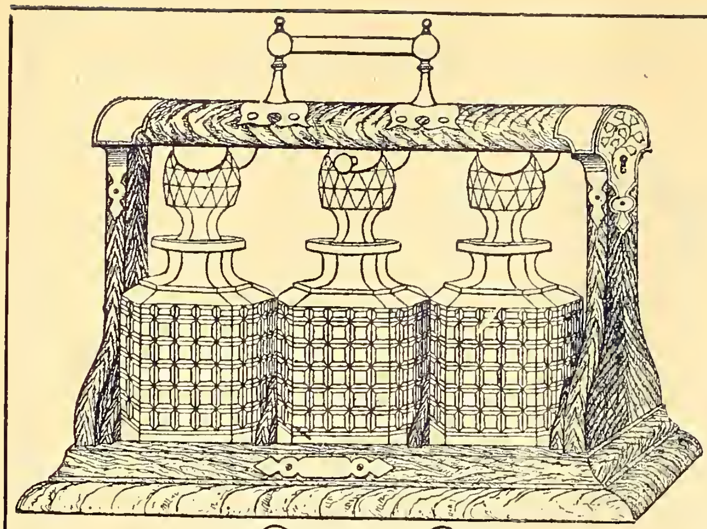

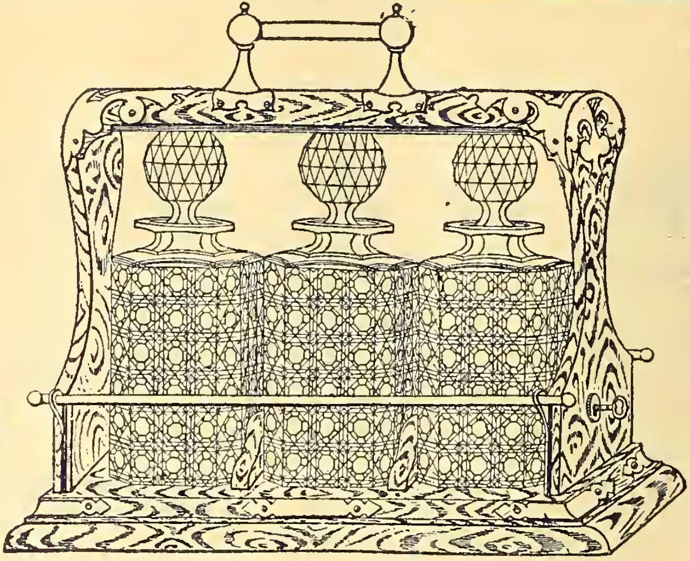

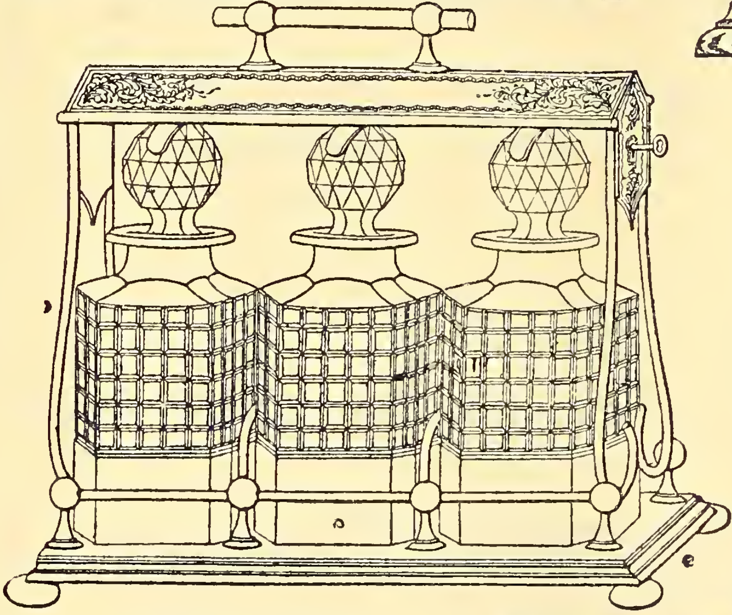

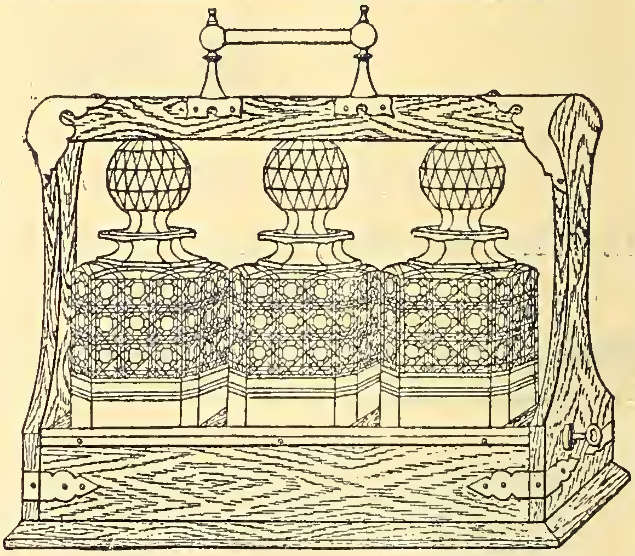

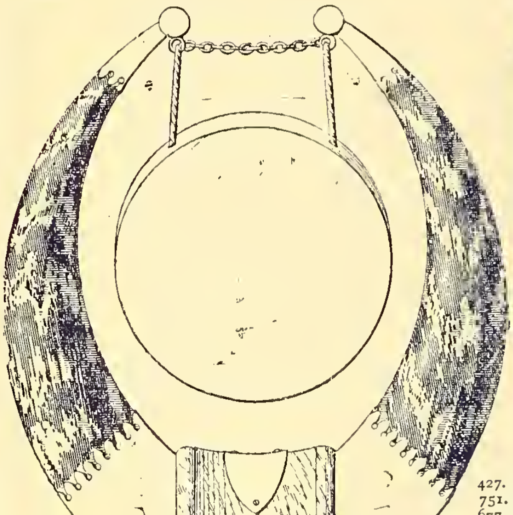

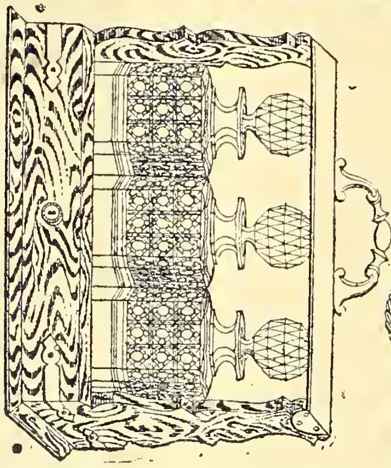

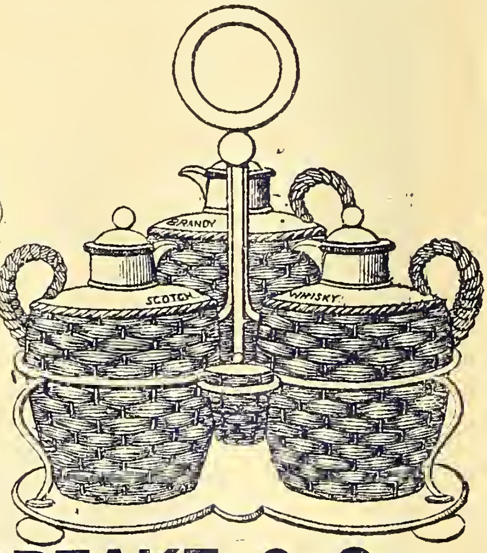

427. Liquor Frame.
751. Liquor Frame.
677. Liquor. All E.P.
1038. Liquor Frame.
748. Cape Horn Gong, 5, 7, & 9 inch. Liquor, E.P. Top Bar.
1831. Regd. Ivanhoe, Liquor

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The Largest Manufacturers extant of Sterling Silver and A1 E.P.N.S. mounted-oak goods suitable for Prizes and Presentations. The Trade only supplied, and goods sent for approval. Always a large finished stock in hand, enabling us to guarantee them from shrinking and warping. All goods are mounted with A1 Electro-plate, not Nickelled Mounts, which, when once tarnished, cannot be cleaned. Old articles repaired, replated, and made equal to new.

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ST. MARY'S ROAD, SHEFFIELD.

SHEFFIELD NOTES

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.*)

THE text of the new Tariff Bill, just reported to Congress, supplies most interesting reading to Sheffield manufacturers. That it is a most sweeping measure is beyond question. Of course it is not free trade, but no one expected anything like free trade in connection with the Bill. If passed into law as printed (and we do not conceal from ourselves the importance of the little word "if") it will enable us to do a good trade with the United States. The change from specific to *ad valorem* duties, even although the rate is still high, is all in our favor. The M'Kinley tariff was intended to be prohibitive, and although it did not quite achieve its object as far as better class goods were concerned, it was still sufficiently mischievous in regard to the town at large. The new measure deals tenderly with industries called into being by the operation of the M'Kinley tariff, and to that extent no doubt it will work against the interests of Sheffield. Still, even although handicapped to the extent of 33 per cent., the new tariff will make all the difference between work and no work to thousands of Sheffield artisans.

THE Hardware and Metal Trades Pension Society is so largely supported in Sheffield that it is looked upon practically as one of our own institutions. Hitherto, however, the degree of benefit conferred upon local people has not been in proportion to the amount of money subscribed in the town. A plan has been propounded by which this inequality may be rectified and Sheffield candidates for the benefits of the Society obtain a better chance of being elected. It has been found that the number of votes recorded in favor of successful candidates has been greatly in excess of what was necessary to secure their election, and that if the surplus votes had been added to many of the unsuccessful candidates they too would have been elected. The committee suggest that henceforth blank voting forms be sent in and used as occasion requires, so that each candidate will only get the exact number of votes required for his election, and the excess votes which are at present wasted used to increase the chances of his less fortunate brethren.

I AM afraid there are bad times in store for the shopkeepers in High-street. The demolitions in connection with the widening of the street have commenced, and here and there gutted buildings are taking the place of well-stocked shops. As this goes on the thoroughfare will afford anything but a pleasant lounge for the casual pedestrian, who constitutes the shopkeeper's best customer. It is unfortunate that the whole work cannot be done at once and thus limit the inconvenience within a reasonable period. As it is, the premises are coming down as the Corporation can come to terms with the property owners, there being questions of unexpired leases which it is feared will interfere with anything like a simultaneous carrying on of the work all along the line. It is quite possible, however, that matters may be expedited by the leaseholders coming to terms sooner than they otherwise would, owing to the temporarily diminished value of the street as a business centre. In any case the setting back process will be nearly entirely confined to one side of the street, and it so happens that most of the watchmakers and jewelers, being on the opposite side, will not be interfered with.

BY the time this letter is in print the business premises lighted by electricity (which include the principal jewelers' shops in the town) will receive their current from the underground mains which have just been completed within the area at present served by the Electric Light Company. The by no means ornamental overhead cables will therefore presently be dispensed with, and will ultimately disappear from the landscape. The extension of the mains into the residential suburbs, especially Ranmoor, is also in contemplation, and will probably be an accomplished fact before next winter.

THERE is still a monotonous sameness in the reports as to the state of trade. It is neither as good as one would like it to be, nor so bad as it might be. The volume of trade in the silver and electro-plate trade has been much less in 1893 than it was in 1892. There are those, however, who maintain that the difference has been caused solely by the recent coal strike. Had it not been for that protracted struggle the past year would have been no worse than its predecessor. That is the opinion of men of great business experience. As to the future, few care to dogmatise. There appears to be an absence of any sanguine feelings as to the prospects of 1894. There are too many uncertain elements in the situation to admit of more than a mere guess as to what is in store for us. For example, the solution of the coal problem may be only postponed instead of being finally settled, as was supposed by a few sanguine people a few weeks ago. The state of unrest, too, which finds its expression in Anarchist demonstrations and the like is anything but good for trade. This is the sort of talk one hears from not a few manufacturers. All the same they are preparing to take advantage of the turn in the tide when it comes.

An Extremely Useful Catalogue.—Messrs. Vaughton and Son, Gothic Works, Birmingham, have recently sent us one of their new catalogues. It is extremely interesting, mainly because it contains a number of articles copiously illustrated that are scarcely to be found at all in any other trade publication. Here may be found some hundreds of medals and badges, from the small articles which are quoted at per hundred up to the costly heraldic badge of my Lord Mayor, the latter being accompanied by mayoral chains. Numerous illustrations of ceremonial keys are also shown.

Gold Key for the Prince of Wales.—When the Prince of Wales opened the Hugh Myddelton School for North London the other day, he was presented with a gold key, which, we are informed, is a splendid specimen of the goldsmith's art. It was manufactured by French, Brinton and Co., Clerkenwell, and designed by a draughtsman named Minoggio. The latter might be a descendant of Cellini, but he claims to be a real Clerkenweller.

A Thirty-six Inch Centrepiece.—Mr. T. B. Bolitho is a fortunate M.P. Recently he married Miss F. Carus-Wilson, when his West Cornish tenantry presented him with a magnificent silver centrepiece, with six candelabra. It is a charming specimen of the silversmith's art, the emblematical figures of music, painting, and sculpture being beautifully executed. It was supplied by J. W. Benson, who, by the way, has just received another distinction. This time it is from the King of Denmark who was so pleased with the artistic taste displayed by the casket recently presented to him by the City of London Corporation that his Majesty decided to appoint the Ludgate Hill and Bond-street jeweler, jeweler and goldsmith to the Danish Court.

A Hull Jeweler's Gets on Fire.— On the evening of the 18th it was discovered that the premises of E. Drury, jeweler, 103, Hessle-road, Hull, had taken fire under a work bench. In the excitement of the moment a man made a rush to open the door, but a police officer, with the forethought of some great general, had a severe fight to prevent such a feeding of the flames being allowed. By judicious handling of the hose the flames were soon got under, but not before considerable damage was done.

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, or necessarily any, of the views of our correspondent who writes on his own responsibility.

Country Notes.

(By Our Own Correspondent.)

We are so often relating what watchmakers are doing for themselves and their own charitable institutions that some people might conclude that we never do anything for anything else, but of course that is not the case. In London the objects of the Clerkenwell Benevolent are a standing argument against such a thought, while in Liverpool we often do what we can for various other charities as well as our own. On December 18th a most successful concert was held at the Oddfellows' Hall, St. Ann-street, Liverpool, under the auspices of the Liverpool Watchmakers and Jewelers' Association, with the object of providing a dinner for the aged watchmakers and jewelers of Liverpool, and I am pleased to say that owing to the great exertions of A. E. Newcombe, the secretary, the whole thing went off thoroughly well and was a perfect success.

I hear that despite the bad times—and bad they are—things are going on well at Prescot. I do not suppose that everything is just what Manager Hewitt would like, but he would be enjoying a unique position were this so just now. I am told that they are producing some 500 watches a day, which I think is a good number as things are. They have also appointed two central agencies in Liverpool where their watches can be had at factory prices. Of these one is the Goldsmiths' Company, Parker-street, and the other John Byrne, Bold-street.

Upon my inquiries round the Watch City I regret I do not find things as I should like. Here and there one hears of someone being pretty busy, but unfortunately that forms the exception.

I was recently very pleased with some charming enamelling that is being bestowed upon watch cases manufactured by Thos. Hill and Co., Spon End, Coventry. I must say that for many years—in fact all my life—it has been the greatest mystery to me that it has been considered orthodoxy to put English movements, which we consider—and which really are—the best in the world, into plain or inartistic cases. Whenever a person had any money to spend and a taste for ornamentation they were always obliged to have a foreign watch. Scores of times I have known cases where salesmen could have sold ladies' gold watches for £25 or £30, if they had been pretty and fanciful, but they have had to be content with selling a Swiss ornamented watch for £10 or £15. People will have what they fancy, and I am therefore all the more pleased to congratulate Messrs. Hill on going out of the old beaten track, and it has delighted the heart of several in the highest positions in trade to whom I have made known the fact, that some really finely and artistically enamelled English watches can now be obtained.

The relief fund for the Watch Jewel-hole Makers has been closed; a meeting was recently held at the house of Councillor Chadwick, when it was stated that £77 had been subscribed, and that after relieving some 130 cases there was a balance of £3, which it was decided to hand over to the Mayor's relief fund.

There have been two very important annual meetings lately in Coventry, the one that of the Coventry Technical Institute, and the other the Coventry School of Art. The influence of these upon our crafts it is impossible to gauge. I am pleased to say with regard to the former that there was a very large attendance, our trade being well to the front. Mr. J. Rotherham occupied the position of president of the Institute.

Mr. Cramp led off the report by the cheering proclamation, "Your committee have pleasure in reporting that the past year has been one of further activity and progress. The pressure which characterised the opening of the session was fully maintained throughout, the number of students having increased to 562, and the membership of the classes to 700." There are thirty subjects taught by twenty members of the teaching staff. And by bringing up the report to date he said that during the last five weeks there had been a further increase of 100 students.

The Mayor pointed out how the movement had grown in six years, which speaks for what might be done in other places. I suppose you, Mr. Editor, would not allow me space for a list of all the prize winners, as it would take about two columns; not even if I attempted to point out how promising things were looking for gemmology, by the nature of the books selected as prizes in many other subjects. I cannot help noticing this, as quite a number of first-class geological works are amongst the chosen prize volumes, except, oddly enough, in the case of one student, who, passing in geology at the bottom of the list, actually chose the *Idler* as his prize. No doubt this will account for his position on the list.

I cannot, however, refrain from quoting the list of prizes in the watch and clock making.—1.—Cyril H. White. First prize, honors grade: £3, given by the Clockmakers' Company (London), and the silver medal of the City and Guilds of London Institute. (Examinations, 1893, open to the United Kingdom.) 2.—William N. Barber. Second prize, honors grade: £3, given by the Clockmakers' Company (London), and the bronze medal of the City and Guilds of London Institute. (Examinations, 1893, open to the United Kingdom.) 3.—William Henry Penn. The silver medal of the Turners' Company (London), awarded by the British Horological Institute for the best double roller lever escapement made by anyone under the age of twenty-five. 4.—Benjamin Keene. First prize. One guinea, given by Mr. B. Bonniksen, for drawing of lever escapement. 5.—Walter James Southam. Second prize: Half a-guinea, given by Mr. B. Bonniksen, for drawing of lever escapement. 6.—Harry Rosenberg. Prize, given by Mr. W. Gooding to the most successful apprentice of the year: Case of drawing instruments.

I must not forget to mention the exhibition of students' work displayed upon the walls, which consisted of various escapements and other parts of watches, some of which were of first-class merit, and showed a degree of skill absolutely unattainable except under the blessings of our technical education scheme.

Death of an Old Horologer.—On the 5th ult. there passed to his long home John Kippax, of Cannon-square, Retford. The deceased passed the Psalmist's limit five years ago. His family has many years been recognised amongst the old ones of the town, where the musical old horologer was highly esteemed.

Sad Death of a Durham Jeweler.—We regret to say that a well-known watchmaker of Durham, John Swinburne, after having reached the ripe old age of seventy-three, died in a fit of apoplexy on the 6th ult. Deceased was under medical treatment, but nevertheless a mortifying inquest was held, at which a verdict could only be returned in accordance with the medical testimony. One would think that in cases like this the first word of the doctor would be worth as much as a second, and so obviate this painful ordeal of relatives.

Telegraphic Code.—Nothing could be more thorough, and few things more expeditious and economical, than the telegraphic code invented by Mr. Samuel Round, of Hockley Hill, Birmingham. It is economy, secresy, and completeness all rolled into one. Buyers of all kinds of goods, whether in jewelry, watches, electro-plate, or miscellaneous articles, should send to Mr. Round for a printed sheet. The trouble will be well repaid in every respect. By the use of a code whole telegraphic orders can be sent at a halfpenny each, and, moreover, there is less liability to error.

ESTABLISHED SEVENTY YEARS.

Manufacturing Jewelers,

HASLUCK BROTHERS,

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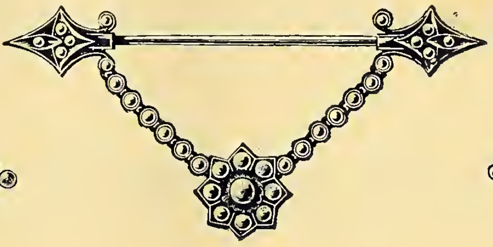
Leading Articles.

OPALS, Set and Unset,

AND

The PATENT BROOCH.

No Joint or Catch—Double Spring Action.
The Pin entirely
hidden when worn, as Figure No. 7.



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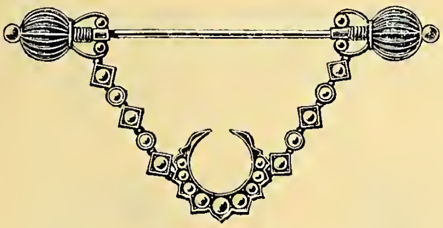
MADE IN NUMEROUS DESIGNS.



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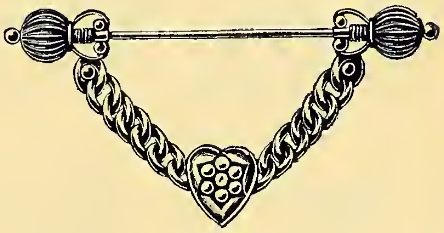

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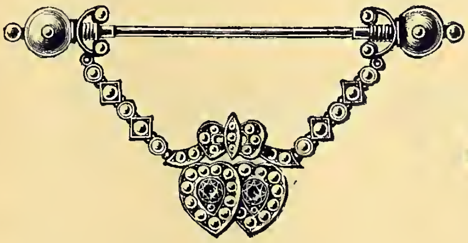
☛ ***SEND for a***
SAMPLE on SALE
or RETURN.



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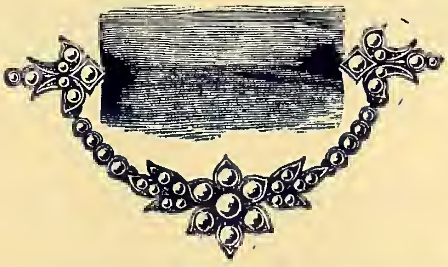

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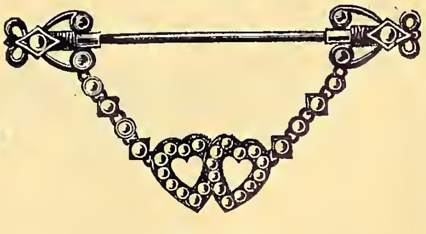

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BANGLES, RINGS, TO ORDER.

TRADE
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MARK.

TRADE
S.H.
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Established 1874.

HOPE

THE

Gold Wedding Ring

Manufacturer,

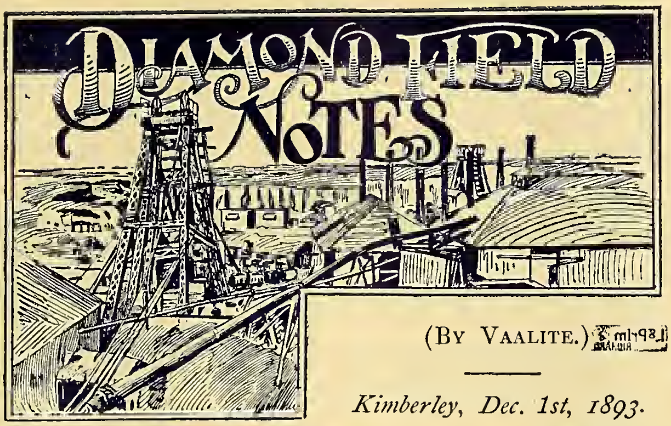
126, VYSE STREET,

BIRMINGHAM.

N.B.—The Manufacturer of 9-ct. Hall-marked Wedding Rings.

Bankers:—National Provincial Bank of England, Ltd., Birmingham.

Registered Telegraphic Address, "HOPEFUL," BIRMINGHAM.



(By Vaalite.)

Kimberley, Dec. 1st, 1893.

By the time these notes are read the year 1893 will be numbered with the long train of those that have gone before, and if one would form some estimate of that long, long list of years that have entered into the æons of the past, I know of nothing more likely to tempt one to draw big drafts on the bank of time than a study of the geological features of this marvellous South Africa. I have recently returned from a trip to the gold fields—I was going to say, of the world—well, they are not exactly at the top, but they soon will be. Each month the output of the precious metal keeps increasing, and as the two first months of the year reached the surprising total of 1,193,472oz., the output for 1893, when it is declared, will stand decidedly over half a million ounces. From information I have of the output of the Randt for November it will, in all probability, even exceed that of October, and I believe that before your readers read my last letter in 1894 the grand total of 150,000 per month will be reached. There is also one remarkable thing about the Randt: the increase is in almost arithmetical progression; that is, the increase is increasing, and appears likely to do so. The strike of these enormous reefs is visible for fifty miles across the country; then they plunge down at an average dip of about 30deg., probably to rise again hundreds and hundreds of miles south. In one trial that I saw the reef had been proved to an extent of 3,000ft. along the dip. All around the country fresh outcrops are continually being located, and fresh claims pegged out.

When one tries to realise the extent of this series of conglomerate beds, one is lost in the contemplation of the physical conditions of the country at the period of their deposition; and when one sees that they were formed by the destruction of other reefs, and amongst them diamond bearing rocks, and notices the extraordinary amount of change the gold bearing conglomerates have undergone, and what immensely old rocks repose upon them, it does, as I previously said, necessitate some very long drafts on the bank of time to take us back to the period when the Kimberlyte, or diamond blue, was a liquid molten mass away down below the surface of the ground. I suppose most of your readers are aware of the fact that it is not the quartz pebbles that carry the gold, but the altered silicious matrix. How the gold got there is a mystery, but the general impression is that it was deposited by aqueous agency. However, if you, sir, are right in determining gold in one of the rocks I sent you in the last lot, and that rock is of igneous origin, it will come as a startler to the world. I will endeavor to get you some more specimens of it from this deep boring, and I suppose by this time you have made a complete analysis of the rock, which I look forward to with the greatest possible interest.*

Turning to diamonds. You have all probably heard that another big deal has been made, and the De Beers once more bought out. I have seen an English paper put the quantity at a million and a-half sterling, but that is—well, newspaper truth; half a million would be nearer. But the noteworthy fact is that the purchase was made by the same outside syndicate, if *out*side it can be called, seeing that some of them are also on the De Beers Board. But when we see there is no reduction in the price, and that the whole of the proceeds of the last great deal are dispersed amongst the trade, there is no chance of a fall of prices, nor would one think there was any lack of money in the world. The most curious feature about this deal was that it was effected on the telegraph wire between Cecil Rhodes, who occupied the instrument at Palapye, where he was, in connection with the settling of the Matabele question, and B. Barnato at the Kimberley end of the wire. It was a tough bargain, and everything at less price was immediately refused.

It is therefore certain there will be no fall in the price of diamonds for some time. The competitions for the Jagersfontein output have also been very keen and prices fully maintained; indeed, there was as much scramble for the gems as if they had been given away; thus giving further support to the maintenance of prices and great improbability of a fall. This latter mine continues its prosperity; recently Manager Sampson was fortunate enough to find a beautiful white stone weighing 133 carats. The company are to be congratulated upon the fact that it did not pass through the hands of one of the "boys," who might have been unable to resist the temptation offered by the cursed I.D.B. Mr. Sampson was rewarded, not by the gift of a horse, but by a present of £100. The profits made by this company during November were certainly over £13,000 and the finds over 27,000 carats.

I hear that the large diamondiferous areas bought up by the De Beers on the Vaal for the purpose of keeping them undeveloped, are to be fenced in and turned into cattle ranches.

I am informed upon what appears very good authority that a new diamond mine has been discovered between Nylstroom and Pietersburg; also that a man of wide experience in the diamond fields was struck with the similarity of the rocks in British Bechuanaland with those of the Colesberg Kopje; and forthwith set to work to search for the precious sparklers. It is said that he was rewarded by the discovery of three of them and that he registered his finds at Vryburg, and afterwards a 40-carat gem was discovered.

I hear that the agreements and contracts are closed for the supplying the McLellan machinery to Otto's Kopje. This invention, as I have previously sent you word, does away entirely with the weathering floors, and treats the blue ground directly as it comes from the mine. It has been established at the Wesselton, and the new machinery for the above mine will embrace improvements based upon the experience gained at Wesselton. I can only say that I hope at last the poor old Kopje will turn out a paying concern.

The New Gordon are still at work pumping, and have succeeded in reducing old Triton to the extent of 27,000,000 gallons, which is estimated at about one-fifth of the water with which they were flooded. I heard the other day that several good large diamonds had been found at Belgravia, and that Hunt and Berkeley's claims in Bultfontein were producing about 300 carats weekly. Things are also looking very satisfactory at the Cyrus.

* * *

New Finds of Opal.—We have recently seen some opals of mixed quality said to come from the neighborhood of Rustenburg. It is asserted that there are extensive beds of trachyte at that place, 450ft. by 1,200ft. in extent, permeated by the iridised gem, and worked by a syndicate privately formed in Pretoria. Various other minerals, such as copper and nickel, are also reported from the same locality. These, of course, have nothing to do with the opal so far as its origin or existence is concerned

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* We had hoped to have been able to publish the facts of what appears to be a remarkable discovery, but reseaches of equal importance in another direction have absorbed all our time. Perhaps, after all, it will be better to await some more specimens, as it is a little venturesome to build much on a single one. Should, however, this turn out what it appears, it will be the first step to tracing gold to its original source.

THREE BEAUTIFUL CASKETS.

Presentation to the Duke of York.

THE recent visit of the Duke of York to his ducal city was celebrated by the presentation of a beautiful 18-carat gold casket, executed in the Neo-Grecian style. It is oblong in form, with fluted pilasters, and frieze bearing festoons of laurel. A bold acanthus leaf ornament rises at each angle, affording a graceful termination, while rich mouldings and foliated border complete the base. This is placed upon a plinth of velvet, scarlet and white in color, supported on decorated gold feet and ebony base. In the centre of the box are the arms of the city, with motto beneath and cap of maintenance above, all in heraldic colors, enamelled, and supported by the mace and sword of State with olive leaves. At the sides are framed panels containing finely enamelled views, one being the famous Minster and the other York Bar. One of the end panels of the box also contains an enamel painted view of the Guildhall, and the other one the new Law Courts. On the reverse of the body the fluted pilasters are continued, as also is the festooned frieze and acanthus border, the whole space forming a suitable panel for receiving the inscription. The lid rises in two lines and has upon it a scroll handle with wreaths and Yorkshire roses encircling the arms of the Prince, with the Royal Garter and coronet surmounting all. The obverse panel of the lid has an enamel painted view of the river Bridge, the reverse being occupied by a view of Wormington Bar, while the two end panels are suitably engraved.

Presentation to Mr. F. Lockwood, Q.C., M.P.

THE roll of the Freedom of the City of York was presented to Mr. F. Lockwood, Q.C., M.P., in a silver casket, oblong in form, having rich acanthus and leaf mouldings, with a lid which is surmounted by a solid silver modelled figure representing the City of York, with wreath of laurel in one hand and the arms of the city in the other, seated on a civic chair, and having on her head a mural crown with cross in front, as indicating the archiepiscopal character of the city. Behind the chair is the cornucopia of abundance or prosperity. The body of the casket has on the obverse a laurel wreath, in the centre of which is the monogram of Mr. Lockwood on an enamelled ground, while on the sides are engraved views of the new Law Courts and York Minster. At the ends are representations of the city arms on one side, with Yorkshire roses, and on the other side the crest of Mr. Lockwood. The latter also occurs in a prominent position on the lid, with emblems of law. The inscription is given on the reverse of the body. The casket is mounted on a velvet-covered plinth.

Presentation to Mr. C. H. Tripp.

THIS casket was presented to Mr. C. H. Tripp on the occasion of his leaving York. It is of oak, beautifully carved and mounted with silver, having a very rich effect. On the lid is a finely modelled figure of St. George and the Dragon. The main part of the body is divided by a number of panels with large pilasters, having columns with emblematic heads representing virtues and graces of life. Two of the York "bars' are shown on the obverse and two on the reverse, the centre panel on the obverse being occupied with a view of the Minster, and that on the reverse by the inscription. The arms, crest, and motto of the recipient are shown at various intervals on the lid. There are also other suitable decorations on the lid. The latter is made to open in the usual way, being fitted with a lock and key, and lined with plush.

Mr. D. Jackson, of Clifford-street, York, was the successful competitor in each of these cases, and the caskets were all manufactured in their usual excellence by T. and J. Bragg, Birmingham.

Technical Education.

WE are pleased to announce an important increase of the possibilities for all who wish to become competent workmen to be able to do so, and one which will be appreciated in proportion to one's knowledge of the existing state of things. There are many who pass through life and never rise above a tinker, and there are many who fall in the lines of the latter and find no possibilities of rising, and no facilities for acquiring the coveted skill and art. And perhaps worse than this, there are others who find themselves in what are called fairly good houses, from which they regard themselves as workmen, when as a matter of fact they ought never to be allowed to touch a good watch. It is to such as these that we wish especially to speak. Hitherto the possibilities of obtaining correct knowledge in the extremely important branch of watch repairing have indeed been limited. Now, however, the state of affairs is altered, and on January 3rd classes will commence at the Horological Institution in this very necessary department. These will be continued through the winter months on Monday and Wednesday evenings, from 7.30 to 9.30. We are also pleased to note that the teacher is to be Alfred Curzon, whose abilities are well known throughout the Clerkenwell trade. The institution will embrace all wants the students will be likely to have, and will include high-class pivoting of cylinders, staffs, barrel-arbors, wheels, pinions, etc., and the application of flat or Breguet springs; with the principles of position and temperature adjustments.

This step is an important one, and we trust it will be as successful as it deserves, for, knowing the little chance there is for youths to become creditable workmen and the general lack of ability that at present exists, the effort must be regarded as an earnest attempt to wrest from the foreigner work that our own countrymen are fully competent to do—providing good instruction can be imparted to them. It is obvious that when a better standard of workmanship is attained a higher rate of remuneration will be insured, for as a rule competent men are not obliged to accept the miserable wage offered by many showy shopkeepers. We hope Mr. Curzon will once more see the large hall packed to the doors; teaching is a very arduous and ill paid task, and it is heroic on the part of anyone who attempts it in Clerkenwell.

Three Gold Keys.

A VERY handsome 18-carat gold key was recently employed for the opening of the new School Board Offices at Keighley. The shaft of the key is fluted and carved, the top being formed of a shield bearing the arms of the place enamelled in correct heraldic colors, surmounted by the crest modelled and carved in gold. The shield is supported by modelled and chased scrolls and ornaments, and the reverse is engraved with a legend.

A similar article was also employed for the opening of the Bacup Conservative Club. This is executed in the Renaissance style, and bears the Royal Arms, enamelled on a shield, and surmounted by a model of the Imperial Crown. This forms the central feature of the top of the key, and is supported by ornamental scrolls.

A smaller article, also of the precious metal, will also be employed for the opening of the Stonehouse Institute on January 3rd, 1894. The top is of Gothic character, with the arms of the Davies family in enamel. The ornamentation is of an Early English character, and the general effect extremely chaste. All these were manufactured by P. Vaughton and Sons, Gothic Works, Birmingham.

Extensive Fire at Messrs. Theobald and Co.'s.—We regret that a somewhat disastrous fire broke out at Messrs. Theobald's, in Farringdon-road, on the afternoon of the 4th ult., the cause of which is at present unknown. So quickly did the flames spread that some anxiety was felt for the safety of the inmates, but fortunately everyone escaped. The stock was insured, but owing to the heavy stock at this period of the year the loss will be great. The firm is occupying temporary premises at 19, Farringdon-road.

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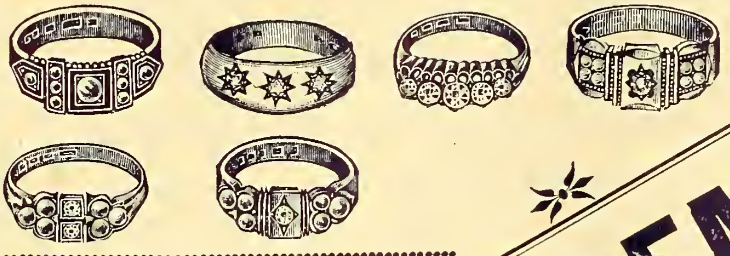
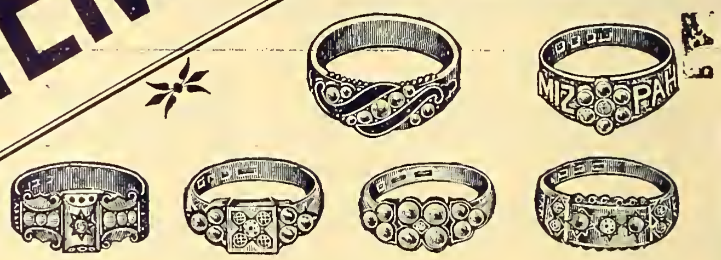


DIAMOND, SAPPHIRE. PEARL, & RUBY RINGS.

LADIES' GEM RINGS

COMBINATION PINS AND STUDS



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27, KIRKGATE,
27, WESTGATE, BRADFORD.

TURRET TICKS.

Chelmsford gets a 7ft. Dialer.

AFTER standing for many centuries as a chief market-place for that end of Essex, Chelmsford was a few years ago elevated by a Royal Charter, and since then several noteworthy features have been added, the latest being a fine new Cambridge quarter clock, indicating the passing of the hours upon two 7ft. dials. It was manufactured by Wm. Potts and Son, Leeds.

Northerners Like to Know the Time.

THE above firm have also recently made for the Yorkshire Penny Bank, Bradford, an illuminated turret clock with three 4ft. dials; and a somewhat similar article for the Broomhill Colliery Co., Limited, Acklington, Northumberland.

Peterhead, N.B., Follows Suit.

YET again, the same firm received instructions from the Committee of Feuars of the burgh of red granite to construct a new illuminated clock, showing time on four large external dials, with automatic gas apparatus, Lord Grimthorpe's gravity escapement compensation pendulum, maintaining power, and all the latest improvements, for its museum and free library.

Narborough also Gets a Share.

THE Bishop of Peterborough lately set wagging the pendulum of a very fine new Cambridge chimer in the tower of the above village church. The clock indicates the time on four dials, and was made by John Smith and Son, Midland Clock Works, Derby.

The Keeping of Public Clocks.

THE Finance Committee of the Town Council of Aberdeen report having had before them an application from James Stevenson, keeper of the public clocks, for an increase of salary; who, in his application, pointed out that before the extension of the city boundary he was paid by the authorities of Woodside and Old Aberdeen for attending to their clocks; that since these clocks were taken over by the Council the payment has ceased; and that, in addition, he has now charge of the clocks at the Constitution-street Baths and the Fish Market, as well as of the carillon machine in the tower of St. Nicholas. The committee resolved to recommend that in respect of his increased duties as keeper of the public clocks Mr. Stevenson's salary should be increased from £30 to £35 per annum, and that it should be remitted to the Churches Committee to consider the question of his remuneration in connection with the carillon machine.

St. Paul's Cathedral No Longer Clockless.

THE huge 15ft. 7cwt. pendulum of the new clock of London's cathedral was set wagging on the 21st ult. by the small daughter of Dean Gregory. It is the same old ting-tang as before: nor is Great Paul to be made to sound out in opposition to Big Ben, who will thus retain his supremacy.

Well Done, Alderman Edridge.

AT the meeting of the Croydon Town Council on the 18th ult., it was announced that Alderman F. T. Edridge had offered to present the corporation with £1,000 for the purpose of providing a clock and bells for the new town hall. Needless to say, the council decided to accept the offer. It was also arranged that the money should at once be invested at 3½ per cent. interest, and that any surplus, after purchasing the clock and bells, should be handed to the Libraries Committee for the purchase of books for the Central Library.

A Fine Chimer for Mytholm.

MESSRS. GILLET AND JOHNSON have lately put up a clock in St. James's Church, Mytholm, which cost £200. It has three dials, gravity escapement, compensating pendulum, gun-metal wheels and hardened steel pinions, and strike or silent arrangement. The first quarter is in G sharp; the second in F sharp; the third in E, and the fourth in B; the hours being pealed forth on an A.

Crowded Out.—We regret there are a number of matters which we are obliged to let stand over till next month.

MARKETS.

Board of Trade Returns.

IMPORTS.—*Clocks:*—The clocks and parts thereof imported in November are estimated at £39,072, being some £11,000 less than the corresponding period last year. For the eleven months in the year the total falling off was about £26,000.

Watches:—The watches and parts thereof imported during November amounted to £71,828, against £68,154 for November, 1892, thus showing an increase of considerably over £3,000. The total for the first eleven months of the year reached £674,446, £2,000 more than last year, when they were exceptionally heavy compared with the previous year, which was represented by £583,272.

EXPORTS.—*Plated and Gilt Wares:*—The total plated and gilt wares exported during November, 1893, are only about £200 below the corresponding month last year. This year they stood at £34,350, and last at £34,561. The eleven months' exports are represented by £276,818, last year by £288,281.

Diamonds.

LONDON, December 28th.—A vast quantity of diamonds have changed hands during the month one way and another. At the fore part confidence was expressed by many that prices would ease, but later events showed the contrary. The cables from the Cape announcing that the Barnato Syndicate had again bought out the De Beers product at the same price, and that increased prices had been offered in open competition for the Jagersfontein product, pretty well assured buyers that no decrease in price is likely to take place in the immediate future. Indeed, it may be taken that prices will never run back again to old figures unless something altogether unforeseen occurs. Owing to the state of trade many stocks had run very low, and required replenishing for Christmas. There were also a few foreign buyers in the market. I have noticed an extraordinary number of Siamese rubies in retailers' stocks which have been acquired lately, but am quite unable to trace the channel through which they came, and am inclined to be very suspicious about them.

AMSTERDAM, December 28th.—The state of our market for polished diamonds during the latter part of the month was very unfavorable. There is no disposition to buy, so that sales were only effected with great difficulty, and at unremunerative rates. At this time of the year, when the Christmas and New Year's trade is considered over, and the spring trade hardly begun, it is always hard to do business, but this month it has been harder than usual. There is also a disposition to clear out stock as much as possible at the end of the year before stocktaking, and then commence afresh. But as stocks have been kept very low a favorable season is anticipated. Rough and Kopjes still hang fire.

PARIS, December 28th.—We are now in what we call "la morte saison" (the dead season) as far as regards the wholesale business, though in the retail everything is at its height and good sales are being effected.

Some little business is now being done with Russia, as the new year is thirteen days later than with us (the Greek calendar being still in force).

The Brazilians, who usually are good customers at this period of the year, are very few, owing to the long continued unsettled state of affairs in South America. The export of rough from that country has also been reduced to a minimum.

Silver.

THE price of the precious white metal during the month has been more marked by its constancy than anything else, for about the first week it stood at 31 15-16d., and then with a demand for India it rose to 32 1-16d., but soon fell back to even money, where it stood for nearly a fortnight. Since then it has touched 32 5-16d., and on going to press is $32\frac{1}{8}$d.

Tin.

TIN has jumped about a good deal. Opening at £75 10s. it went up in a few days to £77; since then it has had a downward tendency, and now stands at about £75.

Copper.

WE heard at the commencement of the month that there was likely to be a boom in the red metal, but it has not yet come. The pounds figure forty-three, not altering all the month, falling as low as 2s. 6d. in the shillings, and reaching 13s. 9d.

MERCURY remains unaltered.

Mother-o'-Pearl Shells.

AT the sales, which commenced on the 12th ult., bidding was slow, and in most instances prices were lower. Sydney shells, with the exception of a few good lots, sold about 10s. cheaper. West Australian, pile 1, sold 5s. to 10s. easier. Manilas were neglected, and every lot withdrawn above present values. The Americans bought very little, and the Sheffield trade moderately. Sydney, pile 1, good quality, sold from £6 10s. to £7 12s. 6d.; pile 1, new character, £4 7s. 6d. to £5 12s. 6d.; medium, £5 10s. to £6 12s. 6d.; grubby, 50s. to 82s. 6d.; West Australian, pile 1, £5 to £6 2s. 6d.; medium, £6 7s. 6d. to £7 7s. 6d.; chicken, £7 12s. 6d. to £8 10s.; grubby, 50s. to 62s. 6d. The following dates have been fixed for the sales next year: February 6th, April 10th, June 12th, August 14th, September 25th, December 4th.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MOTHER-O'-PEARL SHELL SALES.

It is of great importance to the trade to know that a committee, consisting of Messrs. Aschenheim and Fuhrken, F. W. Bowyer and Bartleet, Brookes and Green, Devitt and Hett, S. Figgis and Co., Hale and Son. H Hadermann and Co., Landsberger, Master and Co., Lewis and Peat, M. Myers, A. Ochse, R. D. Warburg and Co., have agreed on behalf of buyers and sellers—"That no shells are to be offered in public sale unless the ship bringing them has arrived in one of the London Docks on or before the Saturday week previous to the auctions. That catalogues be ready and goods on show by 10 o'clock on the Wednesday morning previous to the auctions, and supplements be ready on the Friday morning by 10 o'clock, and goods to be on show not later than Saturday morning 10 o'clock, and that catalogues and supplements be sent to the docks and wharves by selling brokers as soon as printed. That instructions be given to Davis' Wharf to work, sort and show shells in the same manner as other warehouses, and to fill in before or at time of auctions so as to avoid delay in delivery of warrants and goods. That shells be delivered in good packages, and instructions be given not to raise cases, but to make overtaker cases where necessary. Sorting.—In order to reduce the number of lots as far as possible, and to avoid unnecessary sorting; parcels of eight cases or under be worked into two or three piles only. That there be six auctions in 1894:—February 6th, April 10th, June 12th, August 14th, September 25th, December 4th. That merchants be asked to allow four weeks' rent if incurred. The prompt to be as now—fourteen days. That the vote of the room be taken at the next sales whether the trade desire samples of Australian shells to be shown at the brokers' sale room.

Tickets and Ticket Writing.

BY THE EDITOR.

(*Continued from page* 370.)

THE LETTER T.—This letter is one of simple construction, although it is often very disproportionately made, and thus spoils the whole effect of an otherwise well-written word. It should be included in a rectangle similar to that we have employed for all the other letters. The top member is formed by the top lines of the rectangle; and the outsides of the two pendants by the sides of it. These should not reach to the centre, but should be of the same length as in E and F, and should be constructed exactly as in those letters, instructions for which have already been given. Now draw in the downstroke of the usual width exactly in the centre of the rectangle, and finish at the bottom with a foot, broken on either side by a curve, as in H, I, K, etc. Do not modify the juncture of the top and the downstroke by curves, but leave them meeting in a right angle, which gives clearness to the letter, as shown in Fig. 46.

THE LETTER U.—This letter is the victim of numerous distortions; frequently it is made too narrow, and occasionally too wide. But the worst malformations are those which arise from the thickening of the letter in the wrong place; as in the case of the letter C in the second example in Fig. 21. We have not called attention to this class of error since the commencement of the alphabet; but it is taken for granted that it will always be avoided in similarly constructed letters. To preserve uniformity we again have recourse to our rectangle.

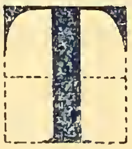

Fig. 46.

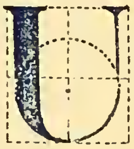

Fig. 47.

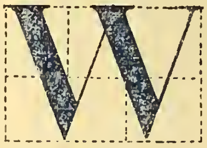

Fig. 48

In the construction of the letter U, first point off at the top left corner the length of a foot of a downstroke, and on the opposite top corner that of a foot of an upstroke. The outside of both down and up stroke will now be the same distance from the adjacent sides of the rectangle. Carry the downstroke about one-third of the way into the lower half of the rectangle. Commence the upstroke as though it were a downstroke, and continue it to the same distance as the latter. Insert one leg of the compass in the centre, and measure off the distance from that point to the sides of the letter. With this as a radius strike rather more than a semi-circle, touching the bottom of the rectangle, as shown in Fig. 47, which will meet the outside of the downstroke and coincide with the upstroke. Now continue the inside of the downstroke a little lower in a vertical direction, and then break its union with the semicircle by a graduated curve, which is lost just before reaching the centre. Modify the junction of both the feet on either side by the usual curve, and the letter is finished.

THE LETTER V.—As this letter is exactly similar in every way to the letter A inverted, minus the bridge, little need be said about it. It is enclosed in the same rectangle, in which it stands practically bi-laterally symmetrical. The forms of the serifs are the same, and in twisting it round the left hand member becomes the downstroke, and consequently the thick one.

THE LETTER W.—The outline of this letter deviates the most of any from being contained in the usual rectangle. It is, as it was formerly called, double-vee—*i.e.*, two V's slightly superimposed, and thus becomes twice the width of the V, minus the width of a downstroke, or about half again as wide. In Fig. 48 the two V's will be seen thus

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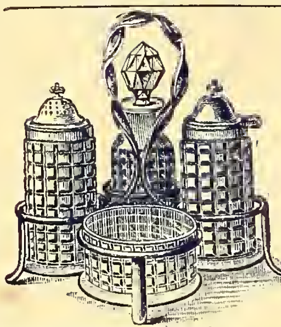
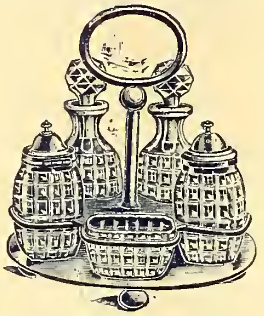
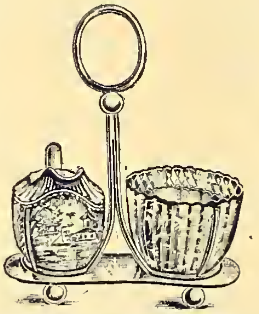


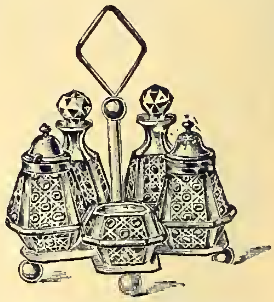
578.—Plaid Glass Lunch



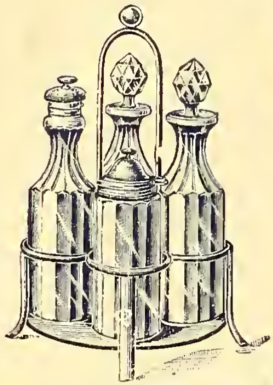
9860.—New Cut Glass, Carlton.



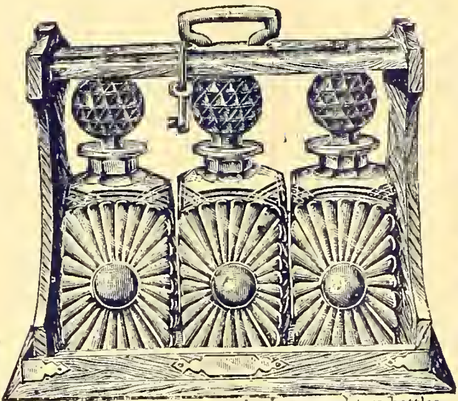
9719.—Sugar and Cream, Willow Pattern Design, Copeland China, all Colors.



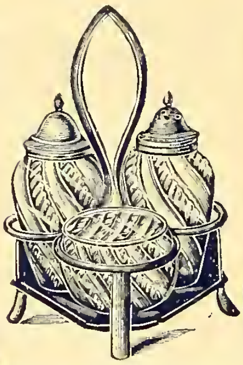
9875.—Fine Cut Glass Carlton.



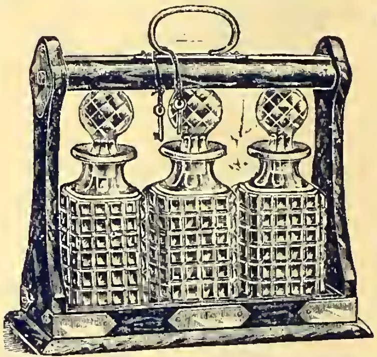
9620.—Government Pattern Glass Cruet, and in 5 and 6 hole.



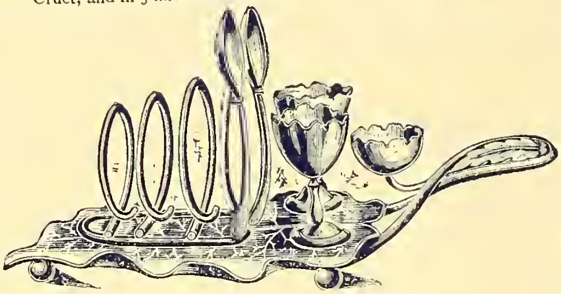
8544.—Oak Liquor Frame; also in one and two bottles.



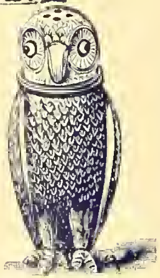
9723.—Breakfast, New Pressed Glass, and an Oval Salt.



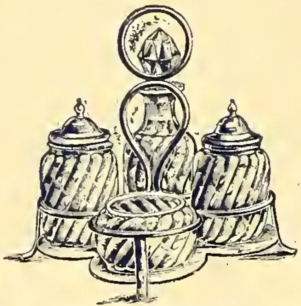
8780.—Oak Liquor Frame, American Glass (Sole Right), and in two Bottles.



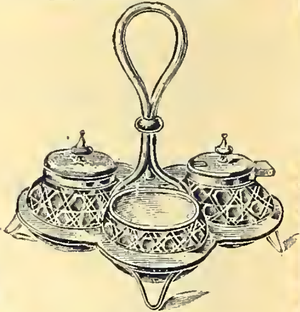
9476.—Toast Rack, Egg and Salt Combination.



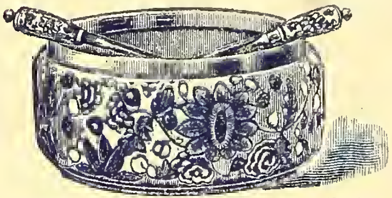
3880.—Owl Pepper.



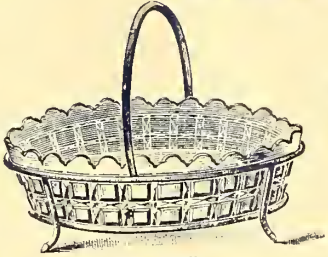
9285.—New Twist Glass



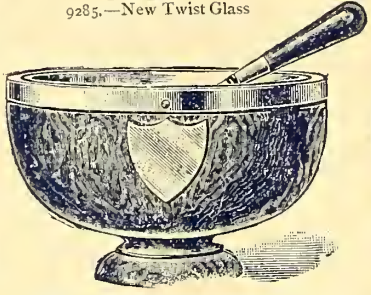
9869.—Cut Glass, New Hobnail, very effective.



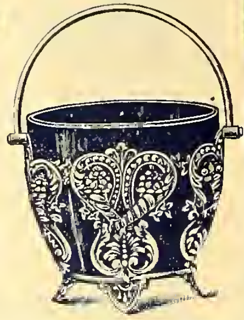
3696.—China Salad with helpers, Crown Derby Decoration.



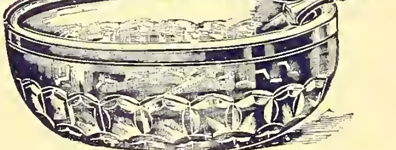
9667.—Glass Jelly.



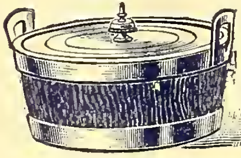
3782.—Oak Salad with helpers.



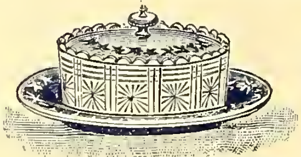
3960.—Sugar Basket, all colors



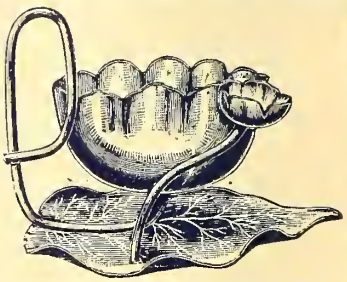
9402.—Salad Bowl with helpers, American Glass and in Hobnail.



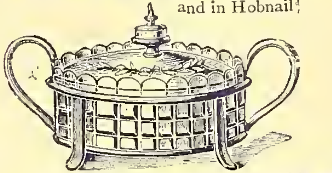
3427.—Oak Tub, Butter.



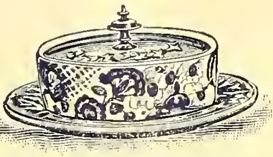
9486.—Butter Glass in two sizes.



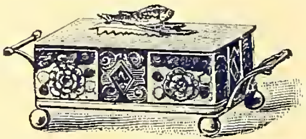
9368.—Lily Sugar Bowl, Gilt inside and Sifter, and in Salt and Egg Racks.



9735.—Plaid Glass Butter, Pressed Ivy Cover.



8539.—China Butter, Crown Derby Decoration.



3824.—China Sardine, Crown Derby Decoration.

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placed, the centre, or serif, of the second downstroke overlapping that of the upstroke of the first, so that the first upstroke ends in the centre of the second downstroke.

The Letter X.—This letter is also inscribed in our usual rectangle, and to construct it we proceed as follows:—First mark off from the top left hand corner the length of a foot of a downstroke, and a corresponding one on the bottom right line. Now join the two by an oblique downstroke of the usual width, taking care that the two sides of the latter are equidistant on the former, and broken at their union with a slight curve on either side. Be sure and remember that this is the downstroke, and therefore has to be made thick, as the two strokes of this letter often get reversed. Now mark off on the top right the length of an upstroke double serif, and a corresponding one on the bottom left; join the centres of the two by a line passing through the centre of the rectangle, thus making the half of the letter above the medium line symmetrical with that below it, which will make the triangle in the upper half of the rectangle equal to that in the lower half. Obliterate the juncture of the upstroke with its serifs by the usual curves on each side, as shown in Fig. 49. It will be seen that both strokes in this letter stand at the same angle to the vertical; and unless each of these conditions is maintained, monstrosities must necessarily result.

The Letter Y.—Perhaps there is no letter which is kept more symmetrical by our quartered rectangle than this, or one which is a greater victim to ill proportions and malformations. Commence as in the last letter, but instead of marking off the foot on the right hand side of the bottom, place it exactly in the centre, so that the vertical dividing line of the rectangle is exactly in its centre. Now proceed to draw in the oblique line as in the last, but instead of going through the lower half of the rectangle, stop both lines of the downstroke when they touch the horizontal median line; then continue them in a vertical direction to the foot at the bottom, thus maintaining the downstroke at the same thickness all through its length. Break the juncture at the latter with the usual double curve, as shown in Fig. 50. Commence the right hand member as though it were a downstroke, exactly as in the last letter, making it join the downstroke at its outside angle. Deviations from any of these rules must necessarily result in monstrosities.

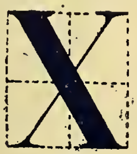


Fig. 49.

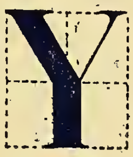


Fig. 50.

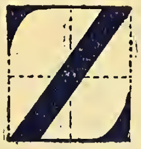


Fig. 51.

The Letter Z.—With the assistance of the rectangle this letter becomes one of the most simple and easy to make, the top and bottom lines of the former becoming those of the latter. Next mark off on the left side from the top a pendant exactly as in the letter T, and another precisely the same reversed at the bottom right corner. Join the top right to the bottom left corner by a downstroke of the usual thickness, the line nearest the edge on both sides starting at the absolute angle of the rectangle, as shown in Fig. 51.

We find we have been obliged to spend much more time over this alphabet than we anticipated, but from experience with pupils we have found the enforcement of every one of the rules absolutely indispensable. Future alphabets will not, of course, take anything like so long; the chief things to describe will be the lines upon which they are modified from the foregoing.

(*To be continued.*)

The Precious Stones of Siberia.

We have often referred to the fact that the trans-European railway when complete would bring to light some very great mineral treasures from the now little known country lying between the centres of Eastern and Western civilisations. A large quantity of specimens are now before us, which have been obtained by prospectors who have travelled thousands of miles on sledges and penetrated localities unknown to commerce. A report has recently been made by the Russian Department of Manufactures upon Siberia, from which the following account of the Trans-Baikal territory is taken:—

Between the rivers Onon and Onon Borza rises the granitic mountain, Adun-Chilon, celebrated for the frequent discovery there of precious stones, such as topaz, beryl, and others. On the Onon, eighty-five versts from Nerschinsk, are found garnets in small crystals. Lapis lazuli occurs in the Baikal mountains, along the rivers Talaya and Slindianka flowing into Baikal, and along the stream Bystraya, a tributary of the Iskut. In the last locality, lapis lazuli of good quality forms pockets in the limestone near its junction with the syenitic granite. From these deposits was found the lapis lazuli which served for the veneering of the columns in the St. Isaac Cathedral in St. Petersburg, and for the execution of a mass of artistic productions placed in the imperial palaces. In the same locality where the deposits of lapis lazuli occur, dark-red garnets are met with in crystals attaining two inches in diameter; along the Bolshaya Bistraya, amazon stone, sphene, and feldspar of a crimson color are found; along the Taloya, mica, serpentine, talc, and other minerals; along the Slindianki, blue calcareous spar, white marble, rose-colored quartz, garnet, asphanite, and others; in the valley of the Uluntui black mica, in slabs 2ft. in diameter, is found. Pebbles of nephrite are found along the river Bielaya, falling into the Angara, thirty miles below Irkutsk, and along the Iret and Onon, tributaries of the Bielaya. The Attai mountains have become celebrated for their porphyry and jasper of various colors. These are forwarded from the Korgon ridge, from the banks of the Charysh and Alei, and from the vicinity of the Ridder mine to the Kolyvan polishing works, whence manufactured articles are despatched over 2,400 miles to the Imperial Court at St. Petersburg. At these works a mass of remarkable works of art have been turned out, which now embellish many of the imperial palaces. At the present time not less than eight quarries are being worked in the Altai, producing porphyry, blue and green jasper, granite, white and colored marble, smoky topaz, red, rose-colored, and blue quartz, agate and chalcedony.

A Very Special New Trade Catalogue.—Amongst the noteworthy catalogues of the season is that of Hammond, Creake, and Co., St. Mary's-road, Sheffield, and 9, Bartlett's-buildings, E.C., containing the most artistic and beautiful productions in mounted oak goods to be seen anywhere, and that, too, in a charming variety. We suppose we could say that no firm in the world goes in for these beautiful and lasting articles to the extent of this one. We are very glad to be able to advise readers to pay a visit to their London show rooms, as we guarantee it will well repay and possibly surprise them.

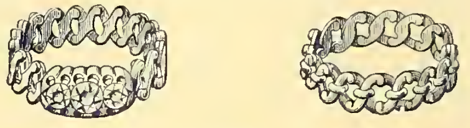
Trade Changes.—The name of old J. French carries our mind back to a period when Newcastle-place and Clerkenwell-close were very different from what they are now. Only a very few of the old firms remain as they were at the time upon which our mind is set at the present moment. Many have died out, some entirely altered, and others migrated. One of the last words to disappear from the telegraphic addresses in this classic locality was "cymophane," a name employed for a "silky" variety of chrysoberyl, which is now removed to 35, Hatton-garden, where business is carried on under the style of J. French and Co.

Edison and Gem Making.—There is in all probability some truth in the accounts which have been given by so many papers that Edison has been trying his brain at gem making. It is humiliating to the creature we call man to say it, but there can be little dependence put upon newspaper reports. Still one cannot help feeling that they cannot be *all* false, and if the "Electric Wizard" has said a tithe of what has been attributed to him, he has only a certain Bond-street jeweler to beat, and he will become the Munchausen of gemmology. We can only assure our readers that they need not be frightened by any alarmist, whatever he professes to be, who, the moment he opens his mouth, shows a complete ignorance of the elements of mineralogy. When a man does not know how diamonds get into an alluvial deposit we may be sure he does not know how to get them out of a furnace!

Things New or Noteworthy

New Patent Self-Closing Ring.

PERHAPS no single specialty in the history of the jewelry trade ever found so wide a sale as the Expanding "Self-Closing" Bracelet, introduced to the trade by Messrs. Saunders and Shepherd. Encouraged by this success the firm has recently brought out finger and scarf rings on the same principle, in a variety of patterns, two of which we select for illustration. They are made in all gold, single stone, half-hoop, clusters, and marquises, to all of which the principle lends itself with equal facility. They are especially suitable for scarf rings, as they maintain themselves in the place in which they are put without injuring the scarf, while for rings, when the gentleman does not know the lady's size, or when the jewels are wanted to be worn on different fingers on divers occasions, the idea is just what was wanted, to say nothing of the absolute novelty and beauty of the articles themselves.



A New Jewelry Attachment.

WE have before us a model of the invention herewith illustrated, which appears to possess considerable advantages as a connecting appliance for attaching various articles, such as watches, sovereign purses, lockets, pendants, match boxes, and other appendages, to chains and guards, in place of the ordinary swivel. The invention was originally conceived as an attachment for flag signalling in naval manœuvring or in action, and the British navy has, we are informed, exhaustively tested its superiority over all other forms of attachments for the period of three years, and a decision has been arrived at by the Lords of the Admiralty to adopt this "Inglefield Clip." The advantages claimed for the invention are rapidity and simplicity in connecting and disconnecting, without any liability whatever to accidental disattachment, and complete absence of any parts liable to injury.

FIG I

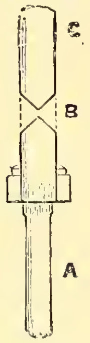


FIG II

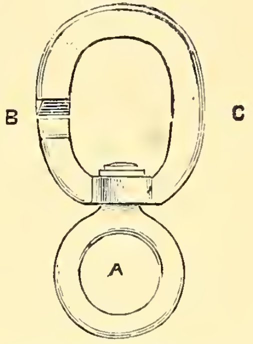
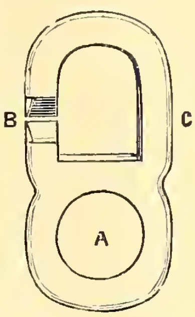


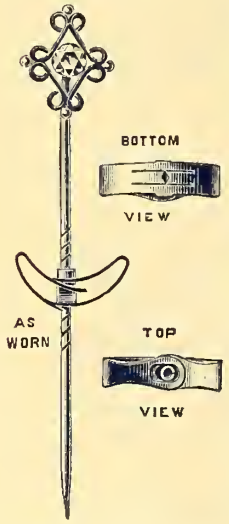
FIG IV



One of the principal uses to which the "Inglefield" will be applied in the jewelry trade is to connect the watch at one end of the chain and the various appendages now worn at the other end, but it should have a large scope wherever the old form of swivel or snap is now employed. Messrs. Saunders and Shepherd have the exclusive right to its use for *jewelry*. In the annexed illustrations, Figs. 1 and 2 represent the side and front elevations respectively of a clip with a swivel. Fig. 4 is a similar view of a clip without a swivel. The clip with swivel is intended for the chain and the clip without swivel is fixed to the watch or other appendage by jumped rings. The essential part of the invention lies in the formation of the eye C with the pointed ends marked B, which latter are placed laterally of the eye and almost meet. The connection is made by simply passing Fig. 4 into Fig. 2 at right angles to each other, with the pointed ends marked B together. The part marked A may be of any shape most suitable. When the two parts are hooked it is extremely difficult indeed for them to become accidentally disconnected. For jewelry purposes the attachment may take the form of two very small oval links with the patent connecting slots marked B. Messrs. S. Mordan and Co. have secured a sole licence for the application of the patent to *pencil cases* for attachment to watch chains. The firm of Messrs. John Davis and Son, of 118, Newgate-street, London, have the sole right to grant licences, and otherwise to deal with the British and foreign patents, to whom we must refer our readers for further information. It will at once be seen that the foregoing advantages can be claimed if the articles are made *very stout*, say several times heavier than is usual with precious metals, otherwise we fear they will soon get strained, when the safety would be impaired.

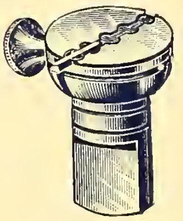
Improvements in Appleby's Pin Protector.

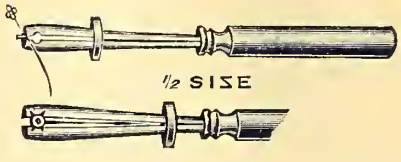
ALTHOUGH the well known pin protector of the above firm had some good points, we suppose that all would have to admit that it had its weak ones, and that it was always liable to become the victim of over pressure, and in this case become either strained or broken. It appeared to us that this defect ought not to have existed, or else that it ought to have been remedied. Messrs. Appleby evidently thought the latter, and accordingly now, instead of the two arms ending in a recoiling scroll, they are bent over towards the stem, where they are furnished with an oval aperture, through which the pin passes, but which prevents the overstraining of the arms. The above figures show top and bottom view of the improvement, and also the fastener in the act of gripping the pin, which it not only prevents from being lost—which we believe is all the firm claim for it—but we have found that it keeps a pin with a full face to the world, and for this purpose the new improvement even exceeds the old one, as the grip is more complete.



Handy Bench Tools.

THERE are quite a number of handy tools that have been brought out by Messrs. Pinfold, and apparently there will be more, as the cry is, "Still they come." Herewith we illustrate two of the new arrivals. The first is a jeweling stake, the advantages of which are set forth in the following hints of how to use it.





Take the stake with the left hand by means of the screw and fix it in the bench vice. Choose a hole with setting suitable; secure it in the recess in the stake nearest you; cut away the setting until the endstone in slip covers the hole. The setting can be reduced to the proper height and the edges polished by rubbing on ground glass, etc., as in

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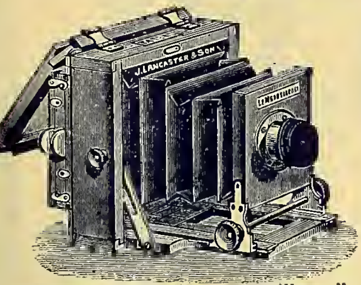
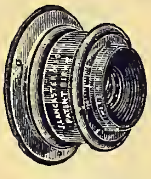
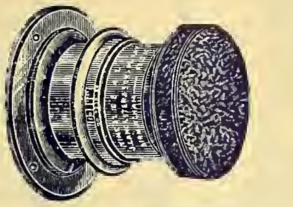


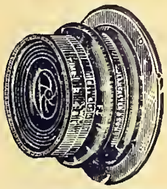
Lancaster's 1893 "Le Merveilleux" (Patent).
¼-pl., 21/-; ½-pl., 42/-; 1/1-pl., 63/-



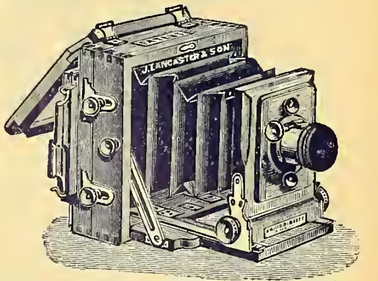
Lancaster's New "Narrow Angle" Lens (Patent).



Lancaster's New "Silver Ring Rapid Rectigraph Lens (Patent).



Lancaster's New Wide-angle "Rectigraph" Lens (Patent).



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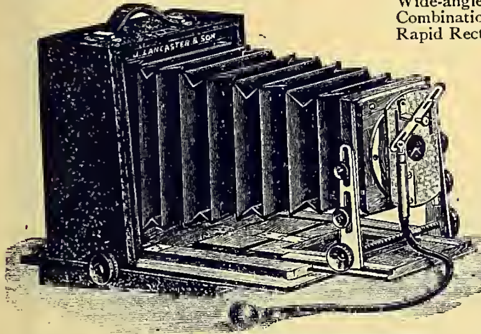

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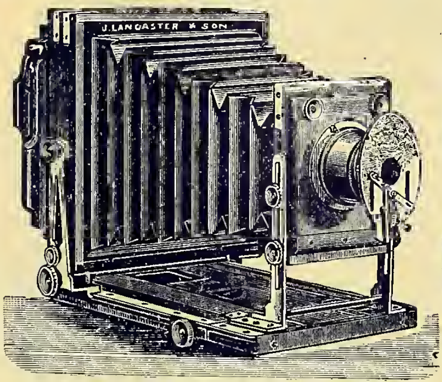

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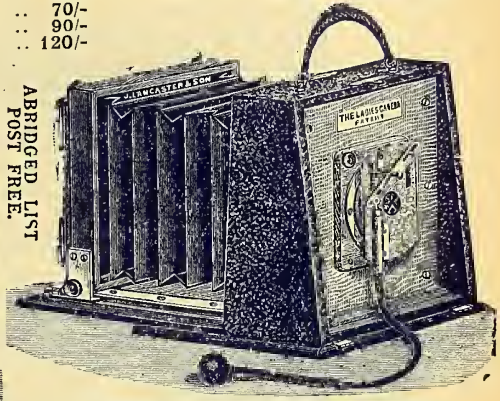

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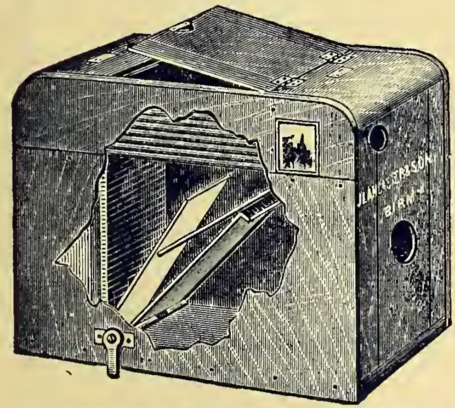

Lancaster's Hand Camera, the "Rover" (Patent).
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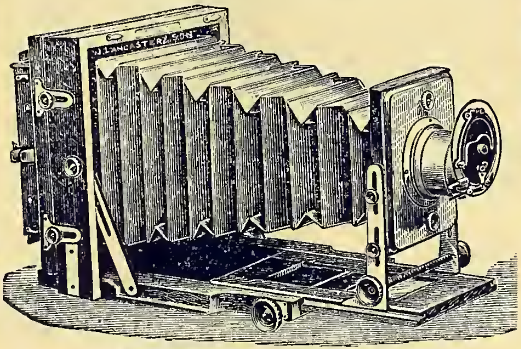

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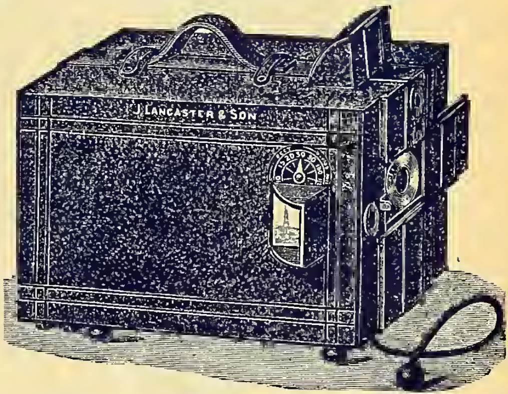

Lancaster's Hand Camera, "The Omnigraph" (Patent). Carries six ¼-plates. Cloth covered, 21/-; Leather covered, 25/-; Leather covered, every working part hidden, Superior Lens, &c., 31/6.
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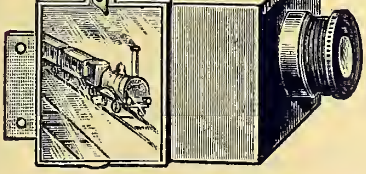

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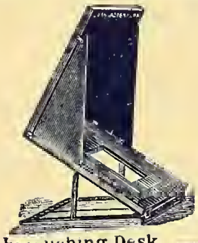

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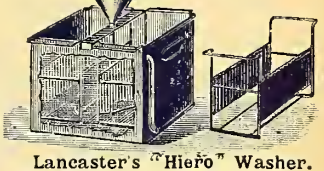

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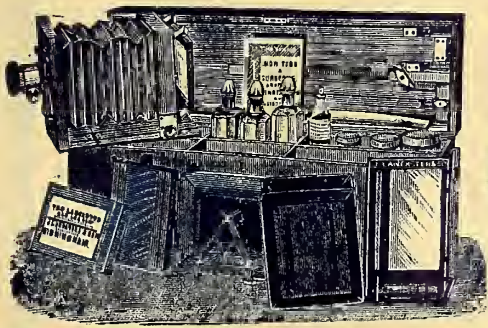

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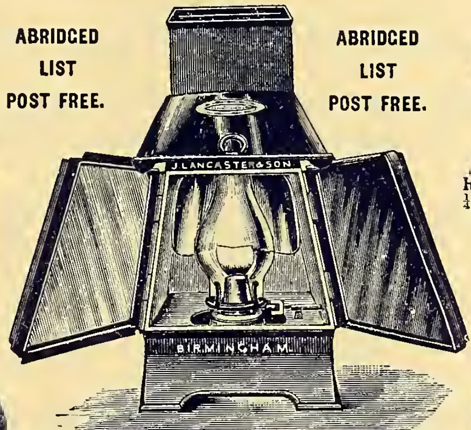

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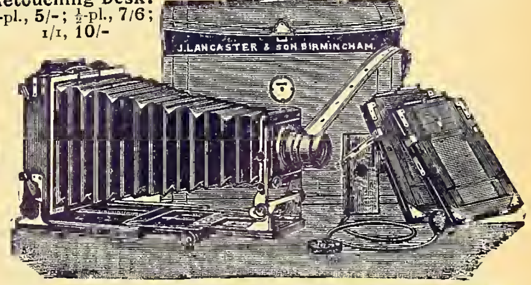
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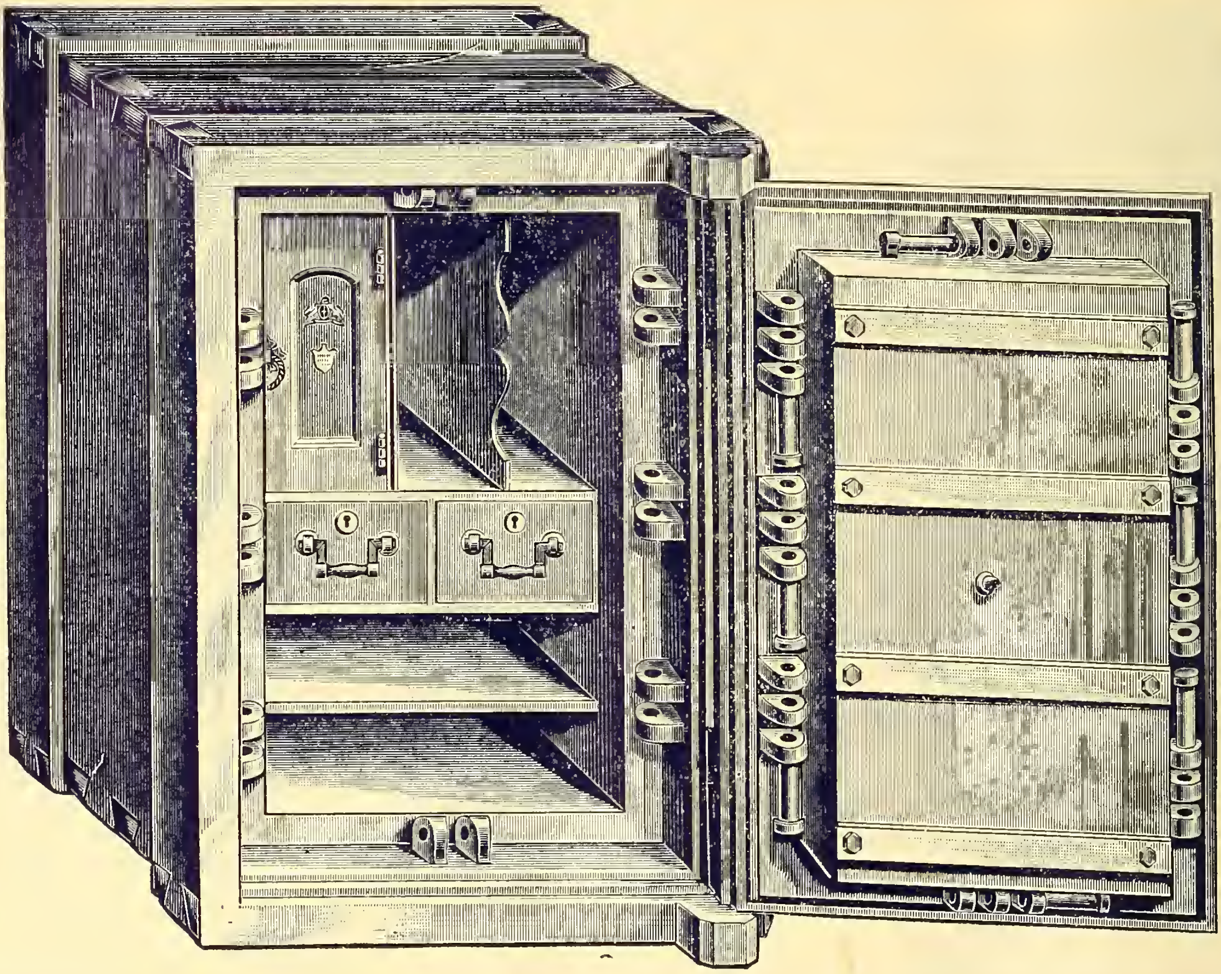

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flat polishing, thus making a complete finish to the job without once taking from the stake, avoiding the risk of losing the hole or damaging the potance. The other is a hand fitting tool by which a centre or ordinary second hand can be fitted and finished complete without handling it. Close the jaws over the boss of the hand as it is fixed on the paper, break the little ligature away, take the hand up and open the hole in socket to required size, and with a smooth file make it desired length; file off the burs and set the hand on pivot, pressing it home with reverse end of tool. Minute and hour hands are held in position by means of the claw clip on the side.

The Montana Sapphire and Ruby Company.

The beginning of the end of this—shall we use the word of a contemporary and say, "fizzle"?—is upon us, and as usual everybody has always known all through what it was going to be. It would, however, be extremely interesting, if we had the time, to turn back to the files of certain papers and see what they said about the company at its formation. One wonders how they had the conscience to accept the advertisements of a thing which was going to turn out such a failure. Now, instead of barrow-loads of gems, a shareholder at the meeting is not afraid to say that "it appears to him like a swindle, and that if two or three more would join him he would have the question tried."

So far as we remember, every paper was full of the wonders of Montana. We happened to be the only one who could speak with any authority upon this subject. The first adverse opinion of the venture that was published was the result of an interview which a representative of one of the financial papers had with us. Then we described exactly the case, and had the shareholders demanded it a proper examination into the facts would have prevented the dire catastrophe which has now been revealed.

On the 18th ult. a meeting of the company was held at Cannon-street Hotel, at which the president, Lord Chelmsford, pointed out that not one of the directors would have joined the board had they known what they now know. We regret it is too long a case to go into here, especially as a committee of inquiry has been formed. We might perhaps just state that of a supposed capital of £450,000, apparently no more than £45,000 was subscribed. All the list of big underwriters representing £370,000, and upon which the public were induced to part with their capital, have in some mysterious manner, which no one would have thought possible, repudiated their liability, and instead of a minimum dividend of 40 per cent. on the gross capital of the company, the first eighteen months show a deficit of over £6,000! The sales of these matchless gems have only realised £158! Of course we must banish from our mind all idea that the Marquis of Lorne, the Duke of Portland, the Duke of Leinster, and all the other great men would have lent their names to this had it not been that they have been taken in by a tongue more glib than truthful. It is high time these bubble floaters were punished in the manner they deserve; and those duped gentlemen who lent their names, upon the strength of which many a poor shareholder planked his hard-earned sovereigns, can show their innocence in no better manner than in instigating a searching investigation. At the same time, we wonder what some of the trade papers on the other side of the Atlantic think of the manner they treated us over this affair. We hope, however, it will be a lesson to them, and teach them that we don't speak assuredly unless we know.

The 971-carat Diamond.—The German Emperor is said to be trying his level best to become the possessor of the enormous diamond now lying in the innermost recesses of the Bank of England, and lately of the Cape diamond fields.

In and Out of the Courts.

The Hackney Brougham Robbery Traced.

In November last, Raphael Platy, a traveller in the employ of Michael Levy, in making a call left his valuable samples inside his brougham in the customary manner, in charge of the coachman. The man's attention was of course divided between his horse and the samples, and in answering a question put by a passer by lost sight of his charge for a moment, when a large quantity of samples, valued at £400, were abstracted from the inside of the vehicle. From information received a detective recently paid a visit to a house in Morris-street, St. George's-in-the-East, and there found John Mahoney, a hawker, of twenty-nine, who, when told that he would be charged with the theft, assured the officer that nothing would be found in the place that could in any way connect him with the act. But assurances go for little, and so the officer set to work to search as only a skilled detective can, with the result that he found eight rings, two brooches, a watch and chain, and other articles in a hole in the floor, together with some wool in the dusthole. Mahoney was an old hand, and several convictions having been proved against him, he was sentenced to five years' penal servitude.

Robbery by an Employe.

In February, 1892, George Edwin Battey, twenty-eight years of age, entered the employ of H. E. Peck, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, E.C., whose trade is, we believe, principally connected with watch clubs, and the *regime* of the business allowed Battey to present orders with fictitious names and addresses, by which he was able to obtain some forty-five watches, of an average value of 30s. each. These he pawned, he said, to meet the great illness with which his family had been visited; but as the law does not permit the payment of debts in this way, he was sentenced to six months' hard labor.

Obtaining Watches by False Pretences.

Recently John Taylor, a Rochdale watchmaker, received a visit from a man arrayed in workhouse clothes bearing a note purporting to come from the relieving officer, asking for a selection of watches to be sent, and also some question about a clock which the horologer was repairing for the latter gentleman. Being thoroughly satisfied with the *bona fides* of the man in pauper uniform, thirteen watches were delivered to him to take to his officer. Subsequently it was discovered that the whole thing was a fraud, and it appeared one of the most cleverly worked robberies known. But one of the guilty parties turning out to be the officer's son, the whole thing became easy of explanation. It appears that after a drunken bout he found himself in possession of some of the watches, and went and made a clean breast of it at once. He will now have two months to reflect upon his sin and folly, and the other accomplice one month.

Such Sweet Innocence.

It is often difficult to realise the readiness with which people can be found to part with watches and clocks to unknown pedlars, when there are plenty of trustworthy tradesmen quite close to them. It is probably the thought of getting the job done sixpence cheaper, and if such is the case, no pity can be extended to them when they get taken in, and lose their timesters. Recently, Owen Jones, twenty-two, a peripatetic mystery, called upon a namesake at Glanllyn Pydew, and asked for watches or clocks to clean, and was obliged with one of each. He then hied to a public-house at Conway, and sold the smaller article for four shillings. He was subsequently traced, and now awaits his trial.

An Approbation Case.

Simon Law is a watchmaker of Walworth-road, S.E., and in the usual manner known as "on approbation" received from Conway and Co., Charterhouse-street, E.C., watches amounting to £29 19s., and also, in what is by no means an unusual manner, a dispute arose as to which was to be "charged" and which was not. The defendant admitted £10 4s. to be due; but with regard to the balance, £10 10s. was for a gold hunter watch, left with him on approbation, but which he subsequently refused to accept, and alleged that he tendered it to the plaintiffs' traveller. As to the balance, he declared that the plaintiffs promised him four months' credit in September, and that consequently the account was not due at the commencement of the action. Unfortunately, when evidence was taken it was of a conflicting character, and in the result his Honor gave judgment for the plaintiffs for £10 10s.

A Certificate Got Him a Light Sentence.

When one sees the astuteness and cleverness displayed by some folk in obtaining possession of other people's property, and realises what good judgment and sound reason it would be considered if employed in something else, it is difficult to understand why they should be able to procure a certificate for weak intellect, and so get off either scot-free or with merely a nominal punishment. Recently, George Ross, eighteen, made sundry plausible tales at divers times to a Glasgow jeweler, which induced the man of gold to part with two gold watches, two gold chains, and a number of other articles. Upon the production of a medical certificate that the prisoner was of weak intellect, his sentence was modified to three months' imprisonment.

Selling a "Silver Geneva" without a Licence.

William Pearce, described as a jeweler and watchmaker, of Fore-street, Saltash, some years ago stopped paying Her Majesty's revenue the licence for dealing in silver. Still the officer of that fund had his suspicions that Pearce still did a little selling, and ultimately traced up a case in which the watchmaker let another man have a watch to raffle away amongst forty members at sixpence a member. The watch was hall-marked with the Swiss mark, being ·800 fine. The result of a cross examination of a witness as to whether it was silver or an alloy, and whether there really was 5dwt. of silver in the case, when it was proved the watch had only cost 12s. 6d. originally, made such an impression on the court that only a nominal fine of one shilling, with costs, was inflicted.

Robbery by a Love-Sick Youth.

Thomas Broughton was a youth of eighteen, in the employ of W. H. Wood, New-street, Birmingham, who, according to his own account, fell madly in love with a woman engaged at a bedstead warehouse, and in order to offer her something handsome, and remove her from her hard work, began forthwith to steal his employer's jewelry, which he had done to the extent of some £80 before he was found out. What was perhaps worse than all to him, the fair one jilted him or would have nothing to do with him. As Mr. Wood did not press the charge, a light sentence of three months' hard labor was passed upon him, upon the receipt of which he declared "Honesty is the best policy for me after this."

Extensive Burglary at Jewelopolis.

No. 111, Warstone-lane, is in the occupation of Mrs. F. E. Jones, whose husband is engaged at a Wolverhampton bank. On the night of the 6th ult. the two left the above premises all securely fastened, at about half-past eight. Shortly afterwards some well-informed crooks entered the empty house next door, and proceeding through the attic skylight, gained access to the former premises and, supporting themselves by the gutter, removed several slates from the roof, and from thence descended to the shop, and cleared the window of about 300 silver watches, 200 rings, and other jewelry, retiring by the way they came, without leaving a trace behind them. While they were engaged in their nefarious operations a neighbour saw a light through the letter-box of the shop, and forthwith communicated with a female assistant living close by, but before assistance could be obtained the burglars had made a hairbreadth escape.

A "Grab" Thief.

Recently a middle-aged man entered the shop of Chas. Knight, 7, Lime-street, Liverpool, and asked to be shown some medium priced rings, in answer to which request one of the value of £2 5s. was placed before him, and the jeweler turned to get more, when the ought-to-have-been customer snatched up the ring and bolted. He was, however, pursued and given into custody. Prisoner had already been sentenced for stealing and "welshing," and although counsel pleaded his ill wife, the magistrate reminded him that he should have thought of that before, and sentenced him to three months' hard labor.

Windows Still Get Smashed.

When the public safety was imperilled by the garotters, magistrates agreed that the dangerous curse ought to be put down with a strong hand. It is high time the same course was adopted with those miserable miscreants who, directly they find themselves in a certain condition (generally brought on by their own vice), feel themselves justified in smashing jewelers' windows. On the 8th ult., an ill-clad laborer attacked the window of London and Ryder, New Bond-street, and not satisfied with having broken two panes, proceeded to break a third; indeed, there is no telling where he would have stopped had not a police officer come upon him. The Marlborough-street magistrate very properly sent him for trial, and it is possible that he will get the sentence he deserves.

A Window Smasher Gets off with Three Months' Hard Labor.

The man Charles Phillips, who smashed the window of Charles Aldis, a Buckingham Palace-road jeweler, and did damage to the extent of £30, on November 21st. was sentenced at the County of London Sessions, on the 4th ult., to three months' hard labor. If his desire was to get something to eat, he will not be fed on gaol diet long.

Scotch Administration of Law and Justice.

We frequently call attention to the dissimilarity in the administration of justice in the courts north of the Tweed. Recently a case came before the Dundee Small Debt Court, when an action was called in which James Gray, jeweler, 99, Murraygate, Dundee, sued Patrick Barret, 16, North Wellington-street, Dundee, and John Barton, Rosebank-street, Dundee, for the sum of £6, less £1 paid to account, being the price of an electro-plated silver cup ordered by the defenders for the St. Mary's Institute Draughts Club. The defenders held that the cup was not conform to order, in so far as it was not of sufficient size, and, further, that an engraving ordered by them had not been made upon the side of the cup. After hearing the evidence of both parties, the Sheriff said he held it proved that there had been a contract entered into by the defenders and Mr. Gray for a cup, the price of which was to be £6. He thought a cup twenty inches in height—as the defenders held the one they contracted for should measure—would be a most ridiculous ornament to be standing in any man's house. In his opinion the cup seemed to be a very reasonable and suitable one for the price. He, however, would hold it proved that 7½ per cent. was to be deducted from the account, and further, that there was to be an embossing of two draught players upon the cup Accordingly he would give decree for £3 15s. being the sum sued for, less 9s. discount and 16s. for the engraving.

"Burglars Get off with £5,000 Swag."

One of the most serious and successful burglaries for a long time was perpetrated at the establishment of George Farrer, High-street, Tunbridge Wells, on the night of the 13th ult. It may be remembered that during this night in the south-east of England a severe storm was raging, which appears to have prevented the noise made by the rascals being heard. The entrance to the premises was effected through one of the balcony windows, which was reached by a ladder left in the passage. So well and noiselessly was the whole thing managed that it was not till he descended into the shop the next morning that Mr. Farrer was at all aware that the place had been ransacked, and watches and every description of jewelry stolen. The police were immediately communicated with, and telegrams sent to various railway stations to try and intercept the passage of the burglars with their booty, but unfortunately to no avail; no clue whatever was obtained. It is supposed to be the work of a gang of crooks who are believed to hail from London, and who have been very busy in Tunbridge Wells for some time past.

How Judges Treat "Tally" Cases.

On the 13th ult. the Sunderland County-court judge in a number of cases refused to order payment where jewelry had been supplied by some Hebrew tallymen to women without the knowledge of their husbands, maintaining that jewelry was not a "necessity."

In another case at Newcastle, on the same day, the judge decided for the other side. In this case a pitman had a watch, the price of which was £5 10s., from a tallyman, giving his watch in exchange, for which £1 was allowed. At the expiration of a month, when the traveller called the next time, the pitman wanted back his old ticker again, stating that he had had the new watch on those terms, and would not keep it; hence the action which followed. After having heard the evidence the judge said he should find for the plaintiff for £4 10s. if the pitman paid the money within a month, but having been informed that that would be an impossibility, as the son of toil had twelve children, the learned judge replied that if a man was so foolish as to make a bargain he must abide by it, and so ordered the payment of 5s. a month.

Who Said "Rats!" Once More?—The sagacious rodent usually known as the rat recently demonstrated to a Liverpool jeweler that he was quite as clever as the jewelers' organ had credited him with being. Recently the man of gold was perplexed by the unaccountable disappearance of a brooch which had been left to be repaired, and having searched "everywhere," a joiner was called in to remove some woodwork; when it was discovered that master or mistress rat had not only stolen the gold brooch, but other articles of jewelry which had not been missed from stock.

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Gold and Silver English Lever Watches of Every Description.

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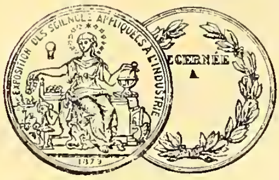
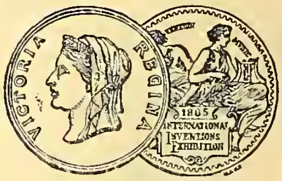
*And the **FIRST PRIZE**, with the **FREEDOM OF THE CLOCKMAKERS' COMPANY** of the **CITY OF LONDON, TRIAL, 1881**,*

*And the **SECOND PRIZE** for the **FINEST CHRONOMETER** ever tested at the **ROYAL OBSERVATORY, 1882**.*



BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT TO H.M. THE KING OF SWEDEN AND NORWAY, TO THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY, AND TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE FOR INDIA.
DIPLOMA OF HONOR, PARIS, 1861. THE MEDAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1862.
GOLD MEDAL OF HONOR, NATIONAL ACADEMY, PARIS, 1869.
THE GOLD MEDAL, INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS, PARIS, 1878 AND 1867.
THE GOLD MEDAL, SOLE HIGHEST AWARD, EXHIBITION, MELBOURNE, 1880-81.
AWARDED THE FIRST PRIZE, TOGETHER WITH THE FREEDOM OF THE CLOCKMAKERS' COMPANY OF THE CITY OF LONDON, 1882, FOR THE FINEST CHRONOMETER EVER TRIED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.
THE DIPLOMA OF HONOR, INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1884.
THE GOLD MEDAL, INTERNATIONAL INVENTIONS EXHIBITION, LONDON, 1885, AND THE GOLD MEDAL, INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, PARIS, 1889.



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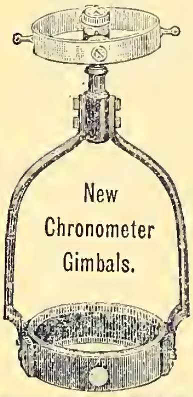
and the
Council of State for India

V. KULLBERG

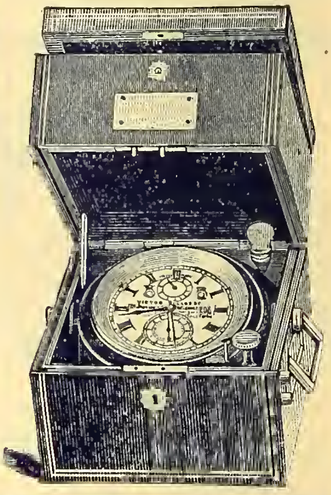
Chronometer & Watch Manufacturer,

105, LIVERPOOL RD., LONDON, N.



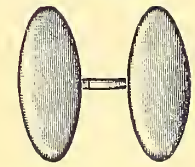
EVERY DESCRIPTION OF HIGH-CLASS KEYLESS & ORDINARY WATCHES.

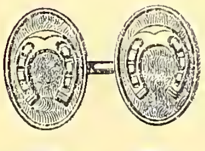
Chronometers with Mr. Kullberg's new Balances and other improvements have stood the First or Second **TWENTY** times in the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, out of over **540** competing Chronometers. At the Sydney Exhibition, 1880, two First Class Awards were obtained; and although the Watches were not expected to be entered for competitive trial, they obtained at the Government Observatory at Sydney higher marks than those of any other exhibitor.

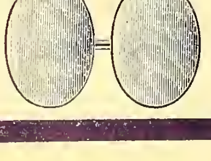


THE
'Castle' Link.
PATENTED.

TRADE MARK
REGD







THE "CASTLE" LINK
JONES'S PATENT.

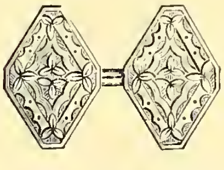
Is Instantly Inserted or Removed. | Does not Crease the Cuff.
Is Entirely Self-Adjusting. | Does not Wear the Button Hole.
Has no Springs or Complicated Parts to get out of Order.

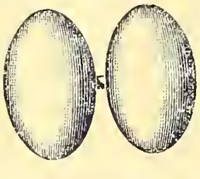
T. WALTER JONES, PATENTEE AND SOLE MANUFACTURER
48-50, HYLTON STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
Telegraphic Address: "STUDS, BIRMINGHAM."

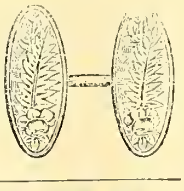
IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The success which has attended the sale of the "Castle" Link has induced several makers to put up their goods upon cards closely resembling those on which the "Castle" Link has been sent out **FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS.** It is important, therefore, for buyers to note that my Patent Links are put up on cards bearing my Trade Mark as above, and the words

"THE CASTLE LINK,"
JONES'S PATENT.

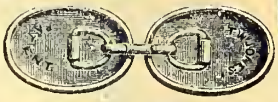


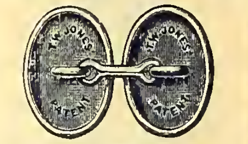




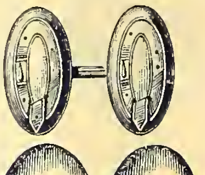
THE "CASTLE" LINK
JONES'S PATENT.

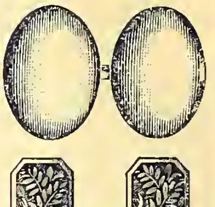
READY FOR INSERTING IN CUFF

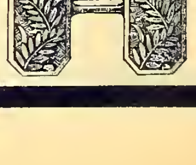




IN CUFF.
MADE IN
GOLD, SILVER,
GOLD PLATE, PEARL,
GOLD-CASED,
NICKEL SILVER, &c.







OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

BUCKNELL, HARRY GREEN, *Jeweler*, MARKET-PLACE, CHIPPENHAM. In this case the debtor commenced business as a jeweler in a small way twelve years ago, with £20 borrowed capital. In 1891 he had a fire, by which he estimated he lost over £100, and he now stated that his deficiency at that time was as much as £438. The greater part of his liabilities was due to relatives for cash lent him at various times, in the hope of enabling him to retrieve his position. The premises he formerly occupied were pulled down, and he removed his business to the present shop, which, he had found out, was in a far worse position, and his trade had fallen off. The Official Receiver is trustee, and he is realising his estate. The liabilities were £954 12s. 7d., and the deficiency is £858 8s. 6d.

CHESTERTON, RICHARD, *Jeweler*, BEATRICE-ROAD, NEWFOUNDPOOL. In this case the gross liabilities are estimated at £157 17s. 1d., due solely to unsecured creditors. The assets are valued at £15 0s. 11d., leaving a deficiency of £142 16s. 2d. The debtor attributes his insolvency to the very small trade done. The Official Receiver reports that the receiving order was made on the debtor's own petition. He has been carrying on business as a jeweler in Leicester for about six years, first in Lower Church Gate, and afterwards at 267, Belgrave Gate. He started with a capital of £10 or £12 only, and his business has at all times been a small one. It was given up altogether about a month ago, and his stock in trade and furniture was sold by auction by his own instructions. The debtor states that the sale realised £16 only, or thereabouts, and that the money has been supplied to the payment of the costs of the bankruptcy proceedings. After the sale he removed to his present house, the tenant of which is a brother-in-law. The liabilities are trade and household debts, with the exception of two loans of £20 and £13 15s. 6d. The only book kept has been a small day book. No deficiency account has been lodged. There will be no offer of composition, and the debtor has been adjudged bankrupt.

EVANS, JOHN, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, KIMNEL HOUSE, COLWYN BAY. In addition to the particulars of this case already given by us we are now able to give a list of the principal creditors, amongst whom are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Daltrey, H. F., and Co.	London	10	19	9
Ahronsberg Bros.	Birmingham	13	11	0
Holmes, William J.	,,	170	0	0
Hayden, R. D.	,,	50	16	0
Evans, Mary	Liverpool	126	0	0
Riley, John, and Co.	,,	36	7	4
Willis, George	,,	43	0	0
PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS		29	6	6

GAYDON, F P., *Watchmaker*, BARNSTAPLE. In this case, according to debtor's statements, he commenced business as a watch jobber in February, 1886, without any capital, and he first became aware of his insolvency about three weeks before he filed his petition. The debtor has only kept a day-book. The deficiency is accounted for as follows :—By bad debts, £3 16s. 9d. ; household expenses of self, wife and five children for twelve months preceding the date of the receiving order, £65 ; legal expenses, £16 3s. 10d. ; expenses incurred through sickness of self and family, £15 ; medical attendance, £8 14s. 6d. ; medicine purchased at chemists', 18s. 1d. ; difference in value of stock at cost price, and that at which same is estimated to produce, £5 ; county-court costs, £4 : £118 13s. 2d. The statement of affairs shows unsecured debts amounting to £90 11s. 10d.

HUMMEL, SIGMUND, *Jeweler*, of 13, WESTBAR, now of 64, HYLAND-ROAD, SHEFFIELD, has been adjudicated, receiving order made, and examination held. According to the Official Receiver's report there are unsecured creditors for £245 5s. 3d. The debtor's assets were estimated at £135, from which £30 7s. 1d. had to be deducted for preferential claims, leaving a deficiency of £120 2s. 4d. Debtor commenced business in February, 1891, with a capital of £120. He kept no books, except one to enter repairing work, and although he knew of his insolvency a year ago he went on contracting debts. The bailiffs were in possession a short time ago. The debtor paid them out, but other creditors pressing he was compelled to file his petition. He stated that he made no profit during the year, and had lost a small amount by betting. The creditors' interests were left with the Official Receiver.

JONES, THOMAS ISAAC, *Jeweler's Assistant*, 3, SYCAMORE-ROAD, SOUTHWICK. has been adjudicated a bankrupt, a receiving order made, and the first meeting of creditors and examination held.

LE BONE. WILLIAM, *Watchmaker*, 47, PRINCESS-STREET, ATHERTON. In this case a receiving order was made and debtor adjudicated and first meeting and examination held at the Court-house, Bolton. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Raphael and Co.	London	10	0	0
White and Co.	Birmingham	16	0	0
Knight and Co.	Manchester	15	3	0
Meyer, Emma	,,	14	5	0
Richards, John	,,	13	0	0
Hirst Bros. and Co.	Oldham	11	0	0

MANNING, JOHN, *Watchmaker*, BARNSTAPLE. The adjourned public examination of the above bankrupt came on for hearing at the Barnstaple Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar Bosson. It appeared that since the last examination the debtor's wife made an affidavit in which she claimed the whole of the furniture in the house, with the exception of a wardrobe, which was claimed by the debtor's father. The debtor alleged that all his own furniture was sold at Okehampton, when he resided there. The Official Receiver observed that these claims by married women were becoming so general that the Board of Trade were determined that they should be thoroughly sifted. The claims were exceedingly awkward, and it was sometimes difficult to show that they were not founded on fact. He should have to examine the debtor's wife in reference to the matter. The debtor in the course of further examination said he was aware of his insolvency four years ago. The Official Receiver pointed out that according to the debtor's deficiency account the deficiency of £781 had all arisen in one year. The debtor had not shown what portion of it accrued during last year. The Registrar said he thought the deficiency account was as approximately made out as the figures at the debtor's disposal would allow. The books kept by small tradesmen did not allow them to make out accurate statements. The Official Receiver said a man with ordinary common sense could make out his statement of accounts for twelve months. The debtor was then questioned at considerable length with regard to the piano in his sitting-room, in the course of which he explained that it was claimed by his wife as a trade tool, she being in the habit of giving lessons on it. He admitted that he purchased the piano. The Official Receiver observed that the last statement showed the worthlessness of the affidavit made out by the wife. Mr. Seldon, who appeared on behalf of the debtor, said the Official Receiver could examine the debtor's wife in chambers if he liked, but that was no reason why the examination should be kept open, and he asked that the debtor might be allowed to pass. The examination was then ordered to be closed.

NIEMYER, CHARLES EDWARD, *Jeweler*, 15, SALFORD, BLACKBURN, has been adjudicated and the first meeting and public examination held.

RUSSELL, T. R., *Jeweler*, 44, KING-STREET, MAIDSTONE. In addition to the facts already published in connection with this case we are able to give the following list of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Richard and Co.	London	10	9	6
Thompson and Son	,,	10	0	0
Silverston and Co.	Birmingham	16	10	0
Turnbull Bros.	,,	50	0	0
Fullagar, William	Maidstone	15	0	0
Gibbons, Frederick	,,	36	0	0
Taylor, Henry	,,	10	0	0
PARTLY SECURED CREDITOR.				
Boots, George	Maidstone	30	5	0
(Estimated value of security, £30.)				
PREFERENTIAL CREDITOR.				
Randall, F. W.	Maidstone	24	0	0

WEBBER, JOSEPH ANDREW, AND WEBBER, WALTER HENRY JOSEPH (J. WEBBER AND SON, trading as), *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, 87, OXFORD-STREET, SWANSEA, have been adjudicated, and the statement of affairs shows liabilities, £1,463 11s. 1d. In the assets the cash in hand is 16s. 4d.; stock-in-trade (cost £770 12s. 3d.), £523 ; trade fixtures, fittings, etc., £75 10s.; furniture, £28 1s.; book debts :—good, £199 6s.; doubtful, £95 18s. 9d.; bad. £137 12s. 11d.—less preferential claims, £62 10s. 1d.; thus showing a deficiency of £673 0s. 10d. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Baume and Co.	London	34	13	9
Grimshaw and Baxter	,	48	9	3
Jones, Ed. A.		19	9	5

		£	s.	d.
Richard and Co.	London	59	11	1
Stauffer, Son and Co....	,,	46	1	3
Braham, W., and Co., ...	Birmingham	105	11	6
Barrett and Francis	,,	78	8	9
Daniel and Arter	,,	16	14	1
Ehrhardt,—	,,	35	5	2
Lyon, S.	,,	29	19	7
Large, John	,,	35	10	3
Manton and Mole	,,	130	6	5
Mardon, Son, and Hall	Bristol	17	1	6
Platnauer Bros.	,,	40	2	3
Rotherham and Son	Coventry	48	9	11
Cooper Bros.	Sheffield	15	2	11
Thomas, Aaron, and Co.	Swansea	135	4	7
Webber, F. W.	,,	41	15	3
Webber, Mrs. A.	,,	139	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS		215	0	0
Total Estimated Amount—£1,458 11s. 1d.				
FULLY SECURED CREDITOR		49	9	0
PARTLY SECURED CREDITORS		255	0	0
(Estimated value of security, £250.)				
PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS		62	10	1

DEEDS OF ASSIGNMENT.

ASSINDER, THOMAS, *Manufacturing Jeweler*, 27, HYLTON-STREET, and 197, CHURCH HILL-ROAD, HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM, has assigned to J. W. Brown, I.A., Prudential-buildings, Corporation-street, Birmingham. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £864, and the assets estimated at £112. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Cooke, W. E.	Birmingham	42	0	0
Banks, F.	,,	20	3	6
Day, E.	,,	14	17	2
Rothschild, B.	,,	23	18	1
Swann and Adams	,,	25	18	6
Wall, J.	,,	18	19	7
Perks, — (Rent)	,,	17	10	0
Moore Bros....	Derby	26	11	3
Lloyd, Payne, and Annel...	Manchester	23	16	3
Collingridge, A. G. (Exors. of)	Glasgow	500	0	0

BROWNE, ROBERT ALEXANDER, *Jeweler*, CHURCH-LANE, and 20, FAIRVIEW-STREET, BELFAST, has effected a deed of assignment for the benefit of his creditors to pay all debts in full, Thos. C. Browne, bookkeeper, Belfast, being appointed trustee. The unsecured liabilities are £560, estimated at £300. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Darton, F., and Co.	London	14	8	4
Potter, W., and Sons	,,	8	5	6
Browne, Thomas C.	Belfast	314	4	10
Tiptaft, J. W....	Birmingham	5	3	4
Cox Bros.	,,	23	18	3
Cross, George, and Co.	,,	126	6	1
Harris Bros.	Derby	11	16	9
Jerome and Co., Limited	Liverpool	24	11	6
Bleakley, John...	Omagh	29	0	0

DINGWELL, J., *Jeweler*, MAIN-STREET, WEXFORD has petitioned for an arrangement with his creditors. The unsecured liabilities are £145, and the assets £111. At the meeting of creditors the debtor offered a composition of 10s. in the £, payable by three instalments at four, eight, and twelve months, the last instalment to be secured, but no conclusion was arrived at. The following are amongst the principal creditors interested:—

		£	s.	d.
Abraham and Co.	Birmingham	5	0	0
Benova, J.	,,	5	0	0
Curtis Bros.	Dublin	5	0	0
Kapp and Patterson	,,	5	0	0
Panton, J. and Co.	,,	67	0	0
Potter and Co.	London	28	0	0
Williams, J., and Co.	Frescot	28	0	0
Pinder, J. and Co.	Sheffield	11	0	0

LOWTHER, GEORGE, *Optician*, 49, QUAYSIDE; 36, LIAZES-TERRACE; and 63, HUDSON-STREET, NEWCASTLE, has assigned to C. A. Joel Pilgrim, of Newcastle-on-Tyne. The unsecured liabilities are £301, and the assets estimated at £177. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Stephens, James, and Sons...	Birmingham	17	0	0
Bocock, Wilkinson	,,	17	0	0
Riley and Co.	Leeds	11	0	0
France, J., and Co.	Newcastle-on-Tyne	105	0	0
Lowther, T. H.	,,	99	0	0
Gibson, T. G.	,,	64	2	0
Laverne and Co.	Paris	16	0	

SANDEMAN, JACOB, *Jeweler*, BOLD-STREET, LIVERPOOL. We trust we herewith report the last of this bankrupt. At th Liverpool Bankruptcy Court, on the 1st ult, an application was heard for his committal to gaol for contempt of court on the ground of his not complying with orders to file certain accounts and other information required by the trustee. The solicitor on behalf of the trustee appeared in support of the application. He stated that the bankrupt, who recently carried on business as a jeweler in Bold-street, Liverpool, had been ordered by the court to file several statements, amongst which were accounts as to his alleged loss in bad company of about £900, his alleged loss of £1,900 in betting transactions, and also £1,160, the value of goods he alleged he had sold over the counter to travellers and dealers. Although the case had been repeatedly adjourned for the purpose and every opportunity had been afforded the bankrupt, these accounts had not been filed. It was believed, rightly or wrongly, by the trustee that the representations made by the bankrupt as to the disposal of the money were entirely fictitious. The bankrupt, in answer to the judge, said that he had done all in his power to comply with the orders. He had walked about the streets till late at night, but had not been successful in finding any of the betting men. The solicitor said the assertion by the bankrupt that he had done all in his power to provide the information required was a story that he had again and again repeated before the Registrar. The judge said he was afraid he had no choice in the matter. He could not believe bankrupt could not give further information than he had, pointing out that a man does not lose £800 or £900 in bad company without knowing something about it. The mere excuse of drunkenness would not do, and he was quite sure if debtor had betting transactions he would know perfectly well with whom he was betting. An order was made by his Honor committing bankrupt to gaol for an indefinite period.

SMITH, THOMAS SAMUEL, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 21, DEREHAM-ROAD, NORWICH, has made a deed of assignment for the benefit of his creditors, Thomas Bullimore, Queen-street, Norwich, acting as trustee. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Grimshaw and Baxter	London	18	0	0
Unna, –	,,	19	0	0
Wilmot, E. D., and Son	Birmingham	24	0	0
Holmes,—	Norwich	18	0	0
Miller, Stevens, and Son	,,	470	0	0

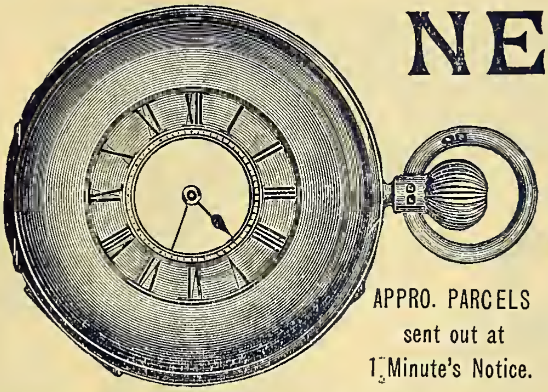
DISSOLUTIONS OF PARTNERSHIP.

BEAVEN AND TAYLOR, 23, GLOUCESTER-ROAD, BISHOPSTON, BRISTOL, *Watchmakers and Jewelers.* November 6th. Debts by Jesse Taylor, who continues.

WHOLESALE SUPPLY CO. (ELDRIDGE, LYON, SEELIG AND CO., proprietors), *Importers of Watches*, 46A, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER. December 6th. Debts by Claude Charles Eldridge and Frederick Herman Seelig, who continue under the same style.

The Public Press on British Clockmaking.—It is only what one expects from trade papers to refer in terms of criticism or approbation to the works of the members of the trade, but the following from the *Islington Gazette* shows that the public Press keeps its eye upon us:—"Thus there is patriotism among us yet; and he who says that the whole of an English trader's conscience is locked up in his purse is wrong. 'Made in Germany' is a statement too frequently met with; and so long as there is a superficial polish upon the thing to please the eye for a moment, the cheap and nasty prevails. But it is satisfactory to note that there is one Clerkenweller who is more intent upon showing that English goods can be made better than foreign, and at not much greater cost, than he is of putting big profits into his pouch. Ex-Churchwarden Foxcroft points to his oak clock cases, and defies the foreigner to show such wood and such carving; whilst Bro. Stockall, M.L.S.B., puts English works inside, and sings, 'Britannia rules the waves.'"

The Telephonometer.—One of the greatest annoyances of the telephone is, that when some people get on there is no telling when they are to be got off, and the delay thus occasioned is often almost as vexatious as the use of the instrument is valuable. Various methods have been suggested to remedy this, such as fixing a limit to the number of times each subscriber shall be entitled to the use of the instrument for his amount paid, but it is not so much the number of times the instrument is used as the time it is retained. Our American cousins have hit upon a better plan, of a sort of chronograph which is brought into action with the use of the instrument, which thus registers the time that each person occupies the wire. Friends in this country might do something in this line.



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THE BUTTS, COVENTRY.
AND AT 94, HATTON GARDEN, LONDON.

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All kinds of English Lever Watches in Stock. Sole Makers of Patent Safety Wheel for Going Barrels. Keyless Work a Spécialité with or without the

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Highest No. Marks for Positional Adjustment at Kew. Watch No. 102816, 36·4 out of possible 40. ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE ON APPLICATION.

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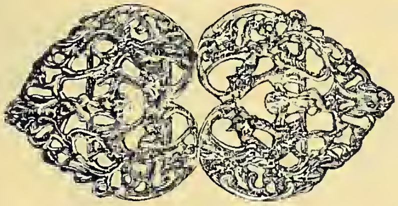

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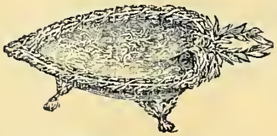

Sweet Trays,
Retails 5/3, 6/9, 8/3

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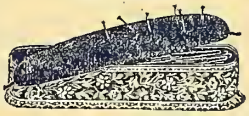
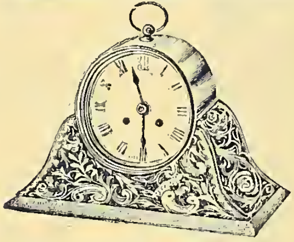


Hair-pin Box and Pin-cushion.
Retails 3/-, 3/9, 5/3, 6/9

Registered Design. No. 1992.



Bee Clock and Stand.
Retails 8/3

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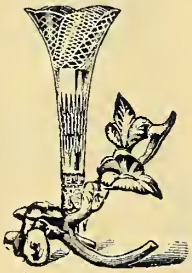

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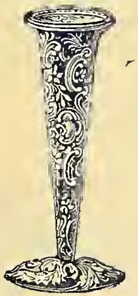

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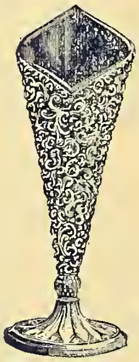

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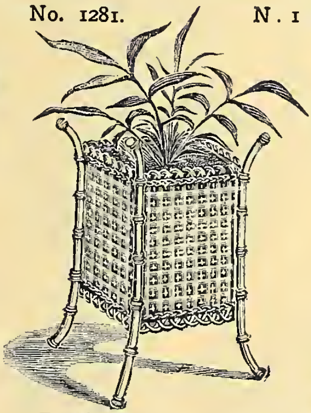

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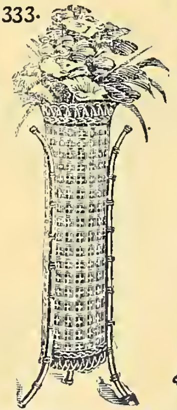

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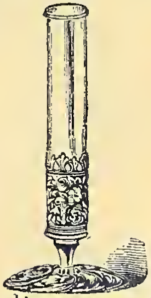

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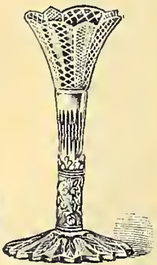

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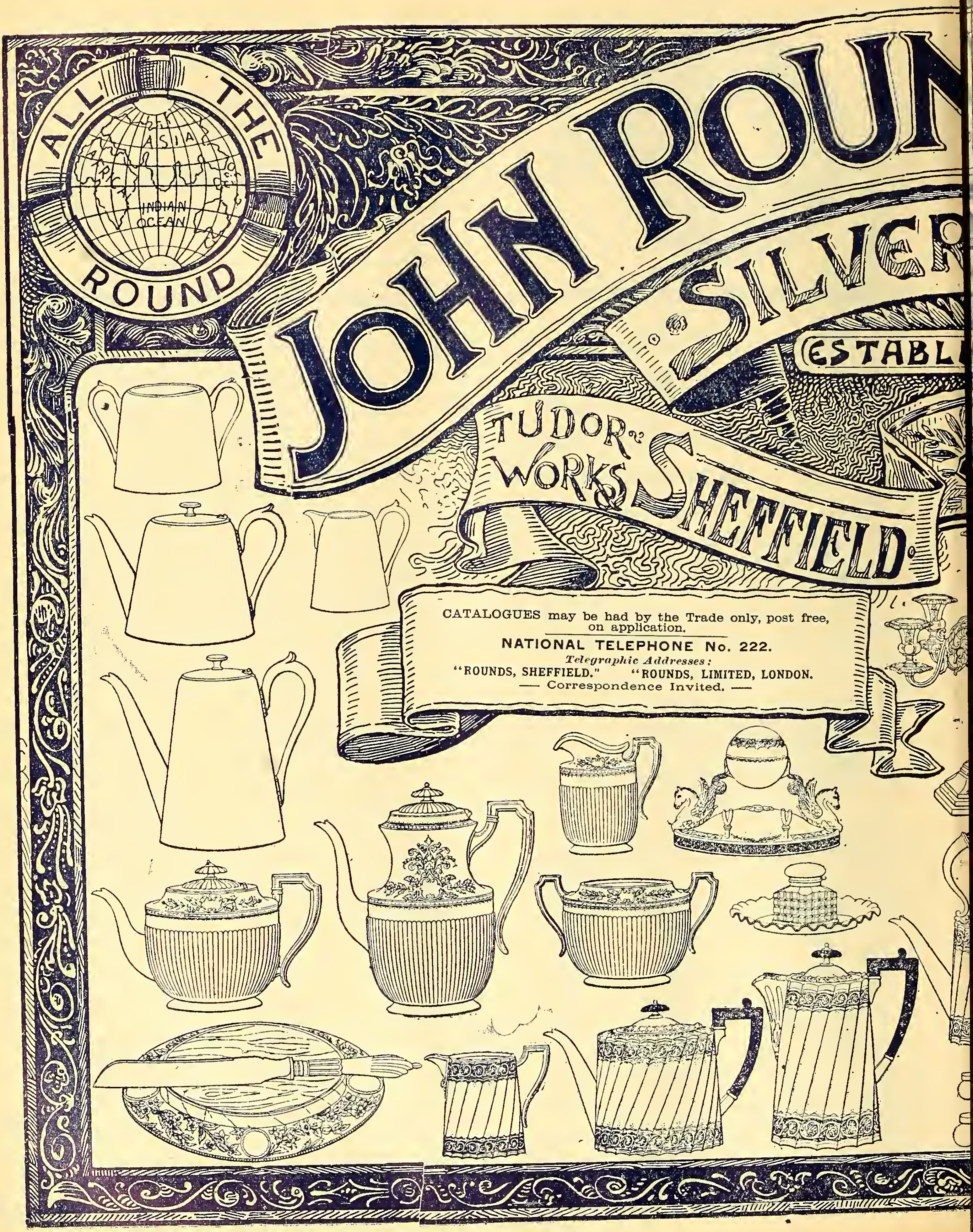
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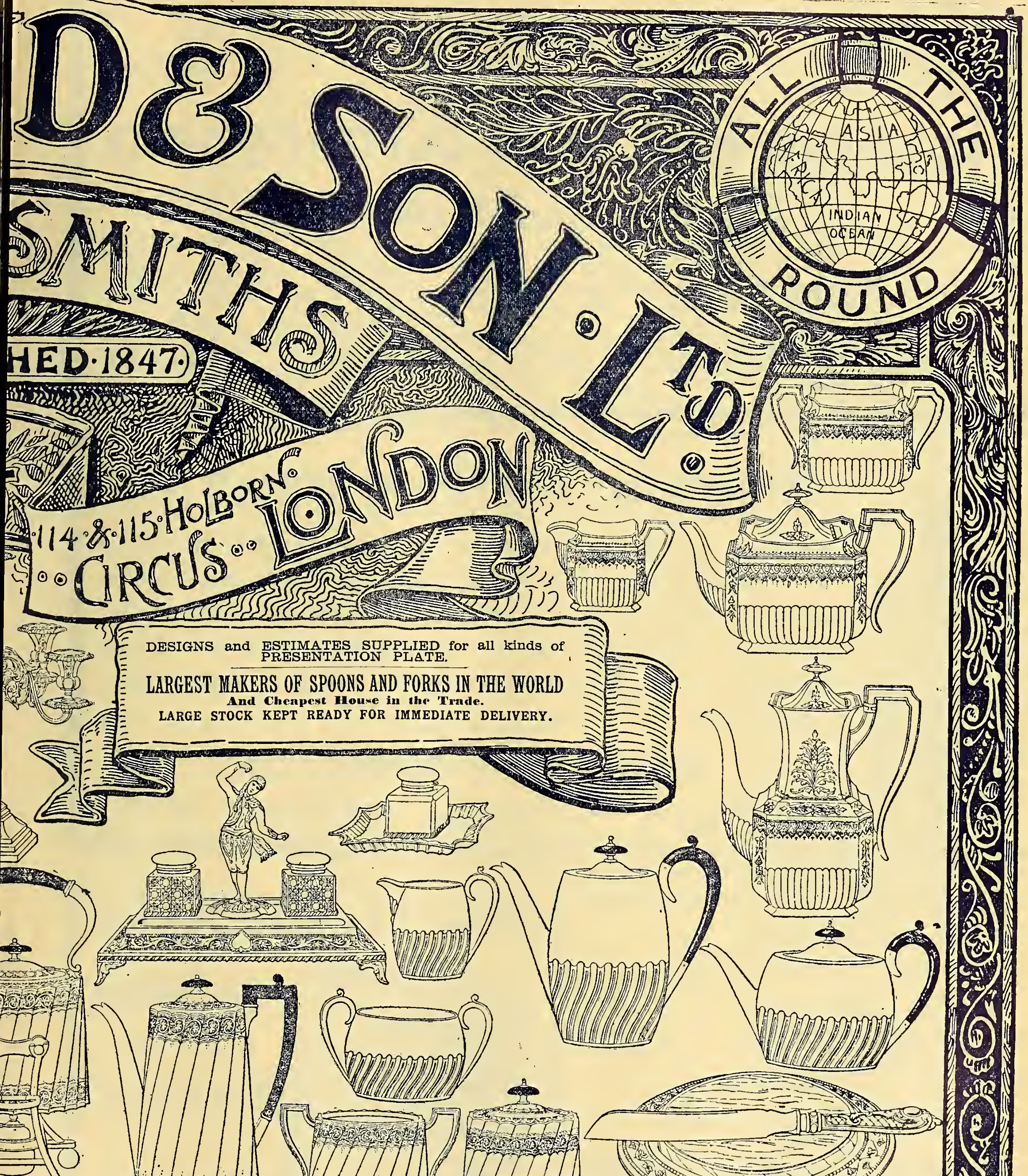
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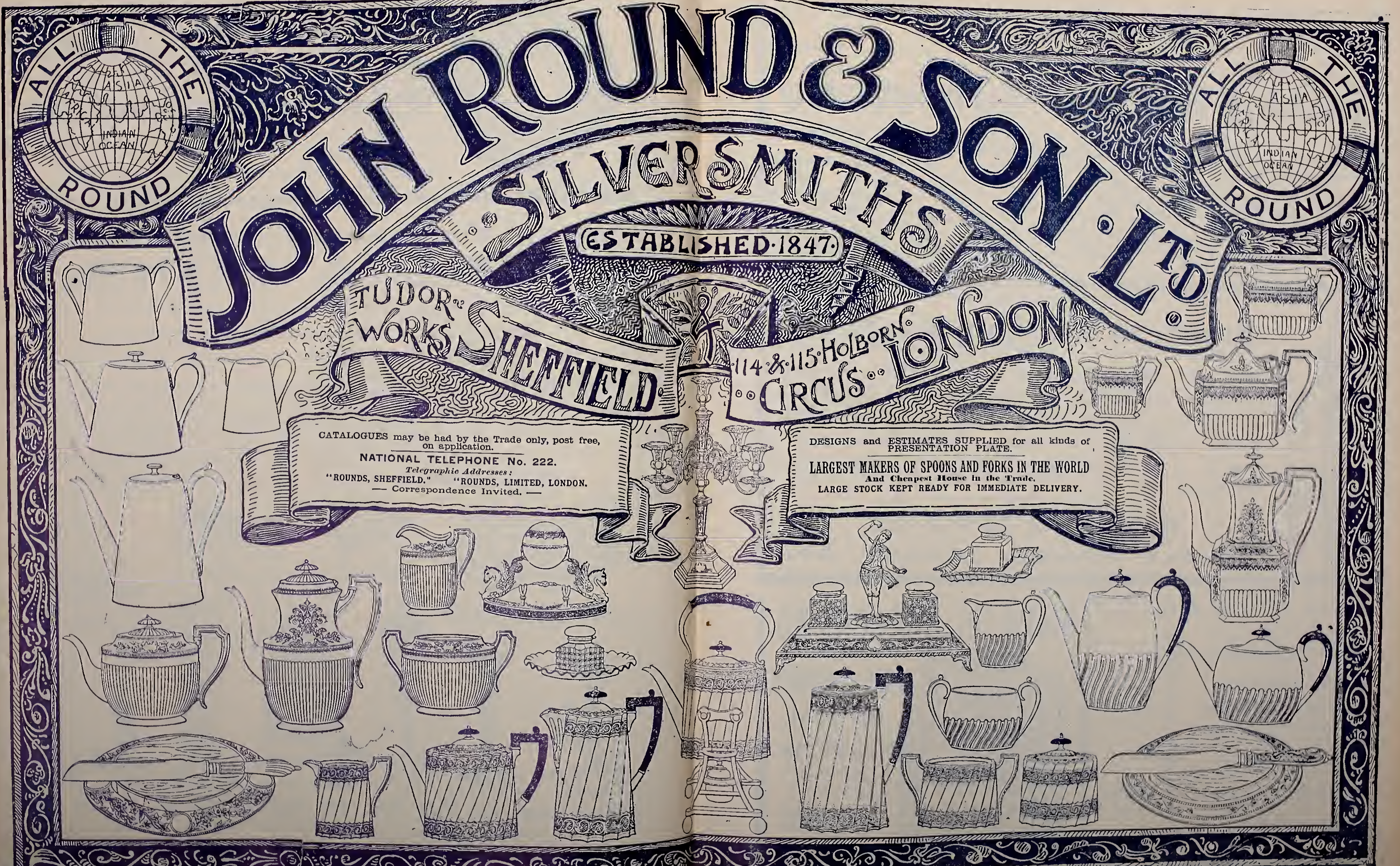
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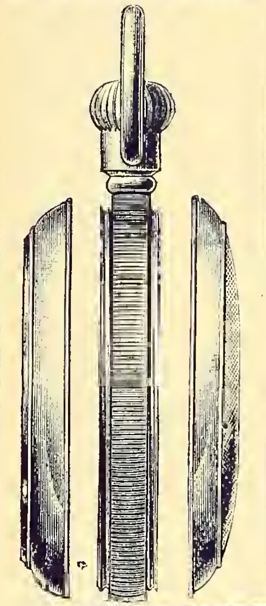

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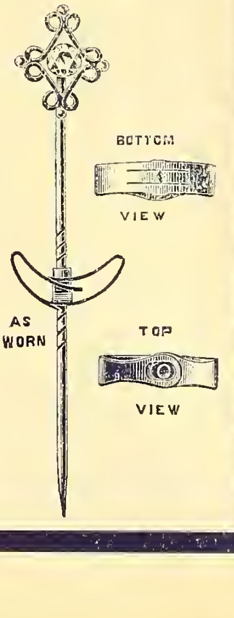

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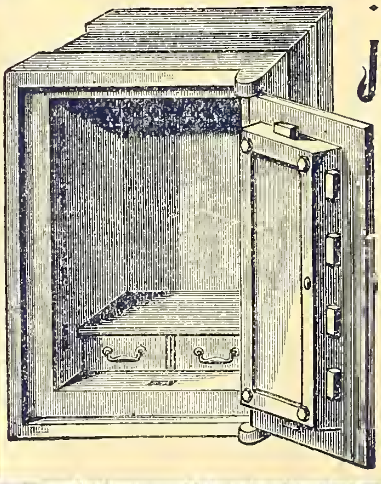

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Death of John Betjmann.—We regret to record the death of John Betjmann, at the age of fifty-nine, which took place at 13, Compton-terrace, N., on the 21st ult. This name is well known in the trade, as he was the first, we believe, to introduce the now universally used "Tantalus." We always have felt a pleasure in strolling over the showrooms in Pentonville-road, and admiring the very ingenious contrivances which are always found there. Mr. Betjmann was highly respected, not only in the trade, but in his own parochial district.

The Randt Gold Output.—November has also proved a record month on the Randt, coming up with the magnificent total of 138,640oz., nearly 2,000oz. ahead of October d with one day less in the month. To fully realise the development of this our future supply of the precious yellow metal we have only to refer to the same month for, say, four years: in November, 1892, it was 106,795oz.; in 1891 73,394oz.; in 1890 46,795oz.; and in 1889 it was only 36,116oz., or about one quarter of what it is now. The first eleven months of this year have yielded 1,332,116oz. The interest in these marvellous and unique deposits grows almost daily. At the last meeting of the Geological Society a paper on a deep boring in the neighborhood of Johannesburg was read. A collection of these gold bearing and associated rocks was exhibited by W. J. Lewis Abbott, F.G.S., and it was very pleasing to note the interest taken in the mode of occurrence of gold in South Africa.

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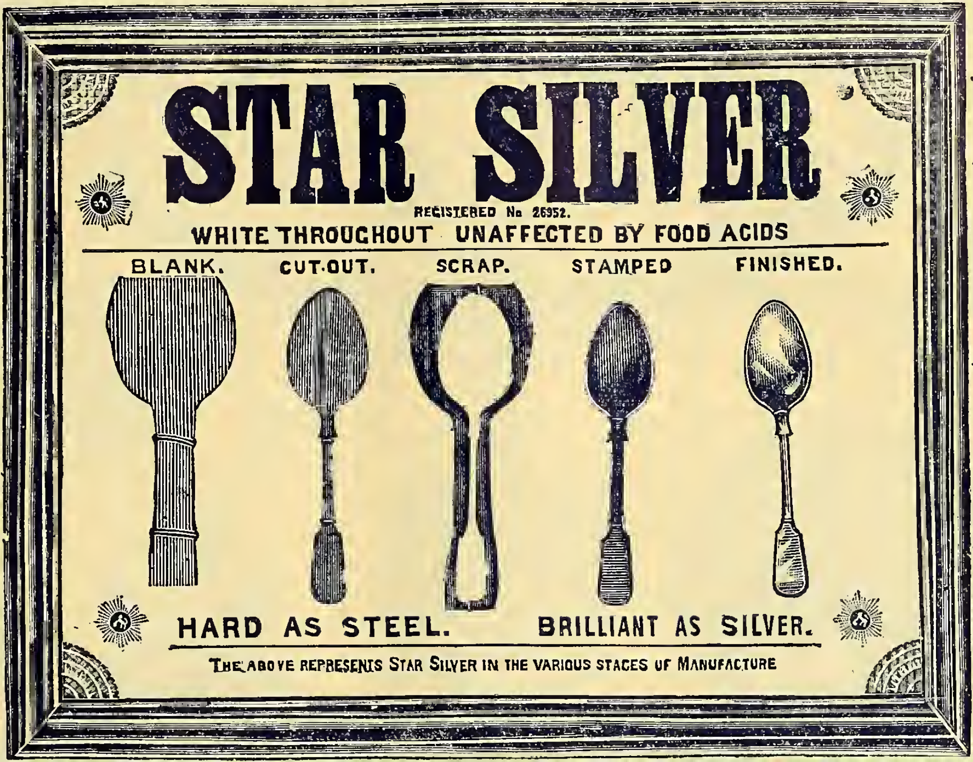

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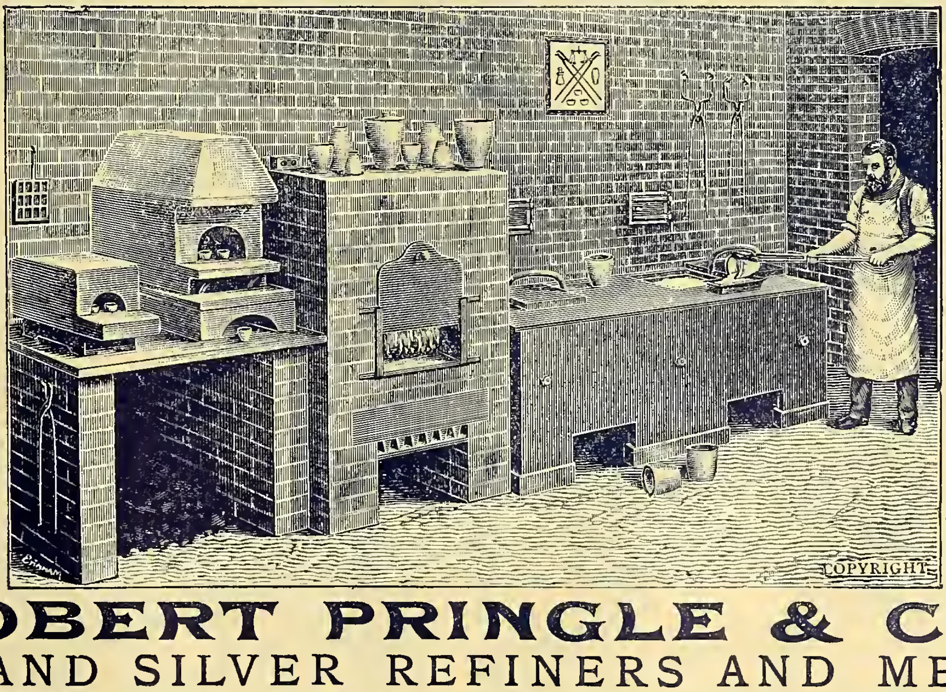

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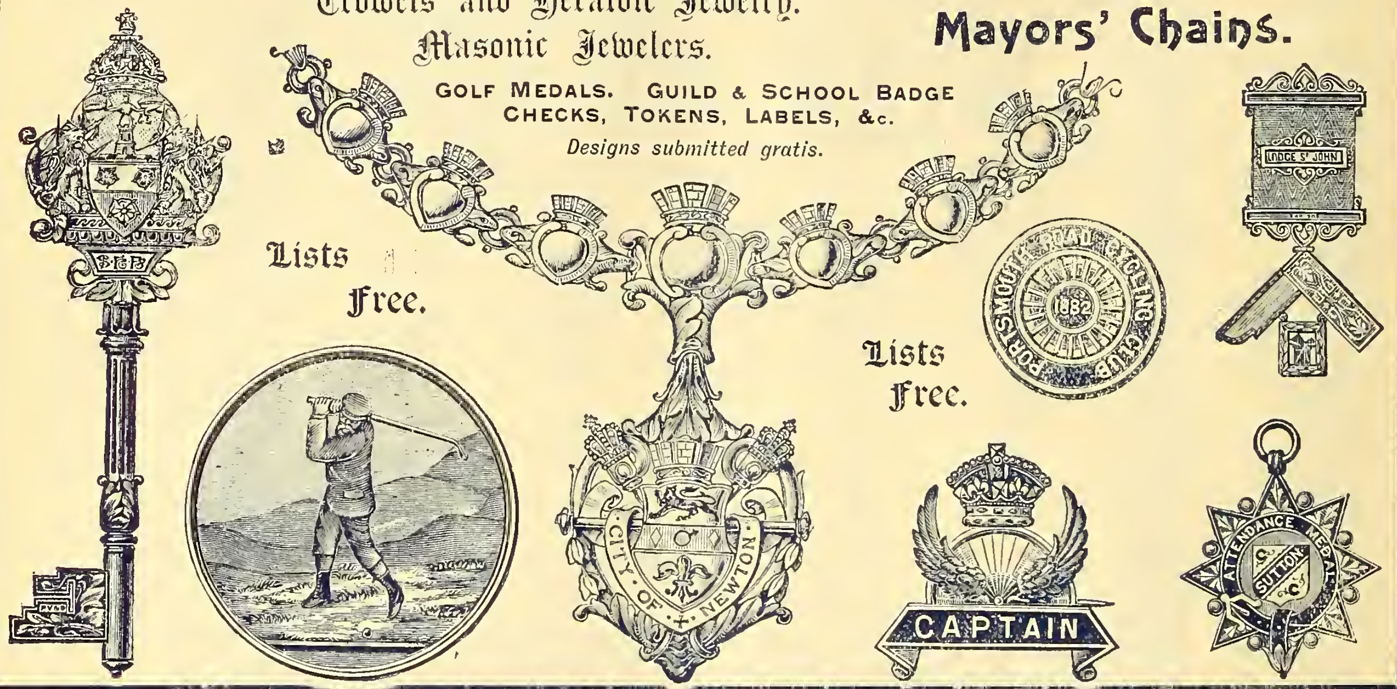

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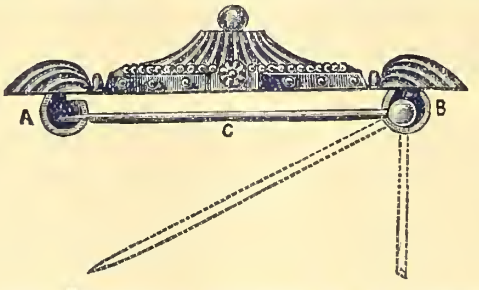

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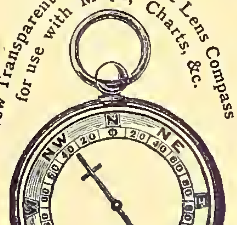

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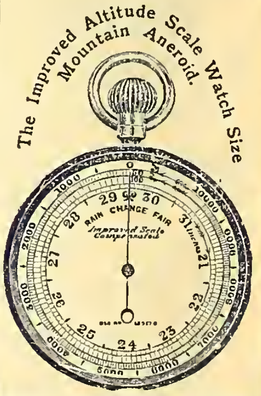

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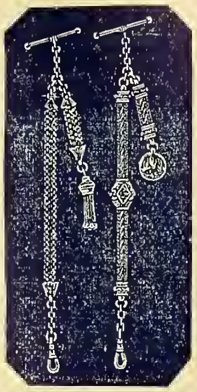

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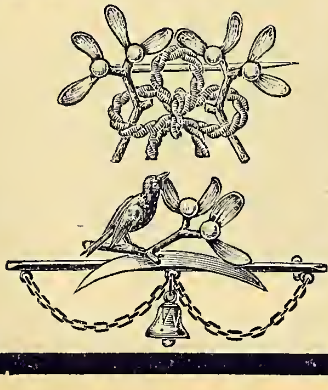

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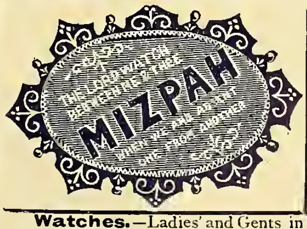

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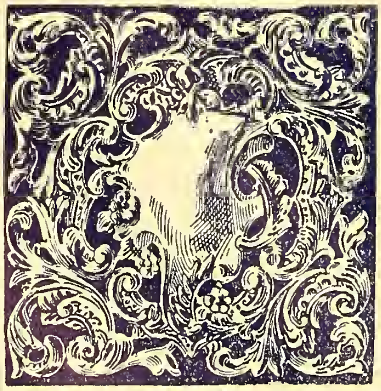

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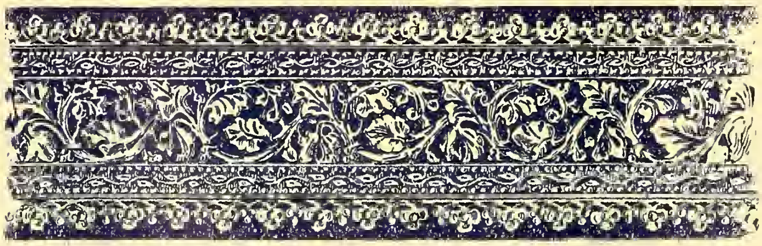

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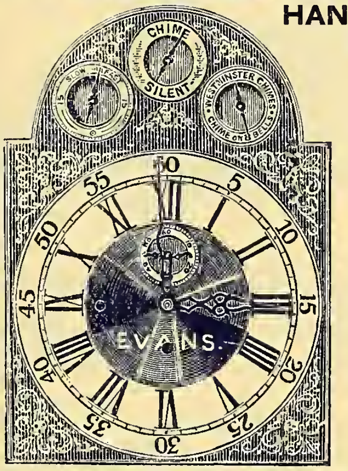

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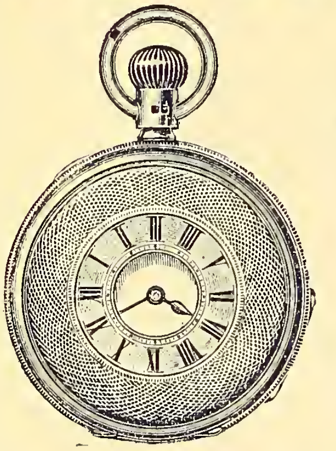

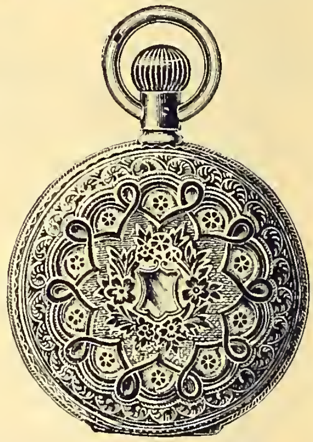

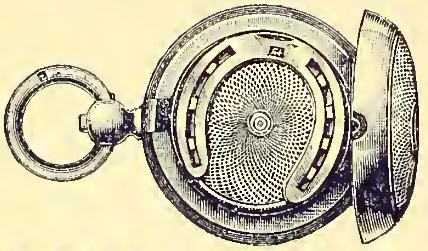

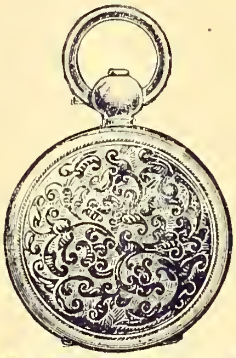

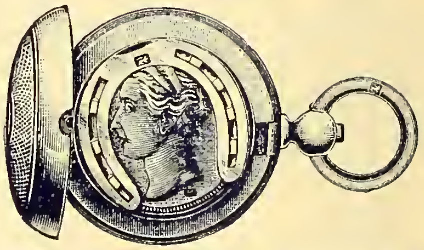

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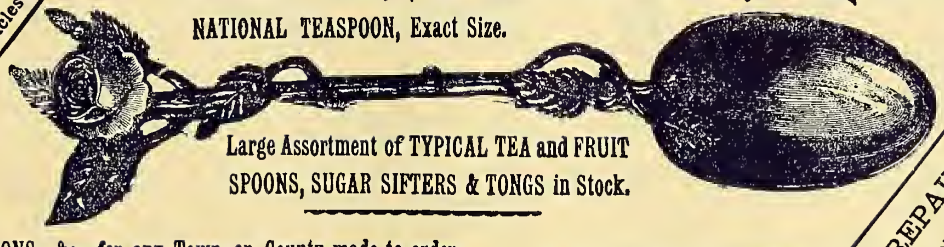

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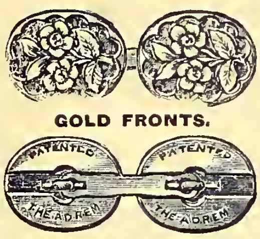

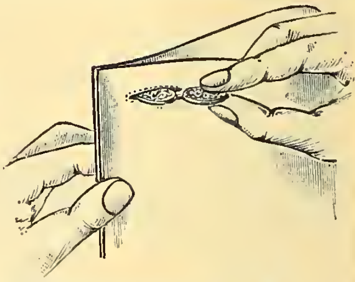

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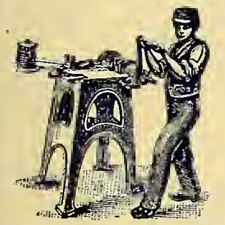
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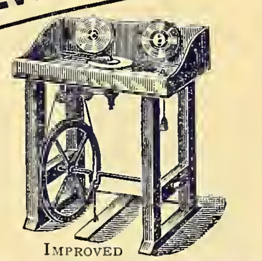
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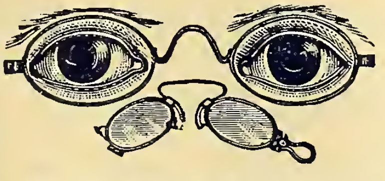

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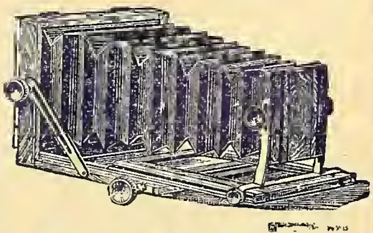

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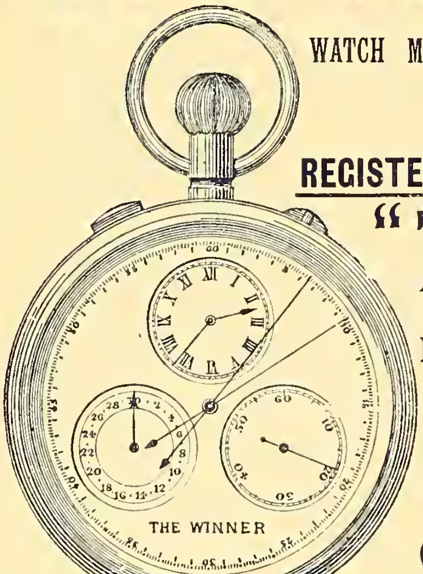

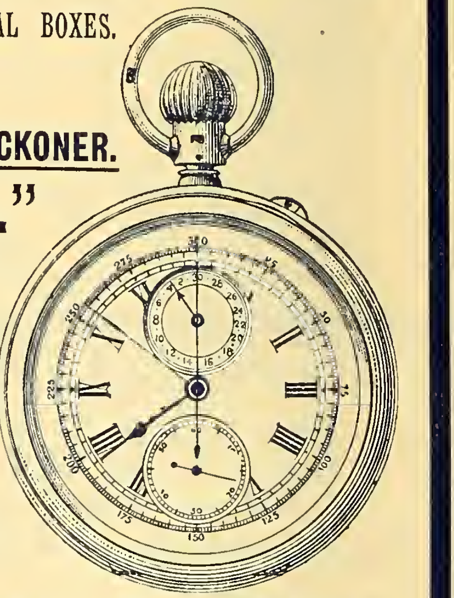

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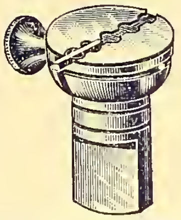

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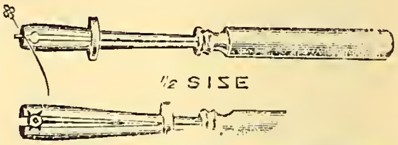

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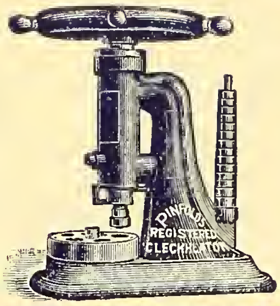

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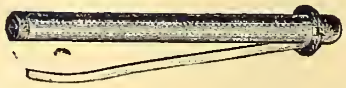

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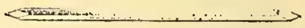

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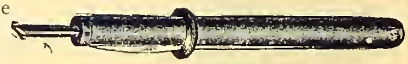

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On account of the repeated use of the Association for the above purposes, it has been thought advisable to form a distinct department for negotiating sales and purchases of businesses, introducing partners, capital, etc. Registers have therefore been opened, and those desirous of effecting any of the above-mentioned objects should at once communicate in confidence to the General Manager, G. G. POPPLETON, The Wholesale Jewelry and Fancy Trades' Association, 26, Corporation-street, Birmingham, or 164, Aldersgate-street, London, E.C.

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OUR

Diary and Desk-Book for 1894.

Indispensable

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WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, SILVERSMITH, AND OPTICIAN.

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Situation or Sale and Exchange Advertisements inserted under this heading are charged 6d. per line *(of seven words) if order is accompanied with remittance, otherwise they will be charged* 1s per line. *Business Announcements are charged at* 1s. per line.

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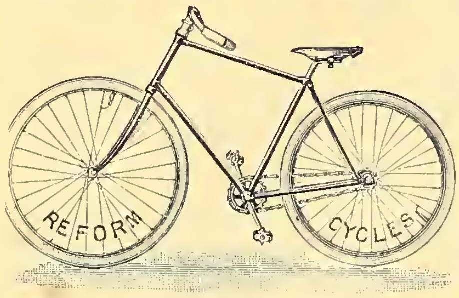

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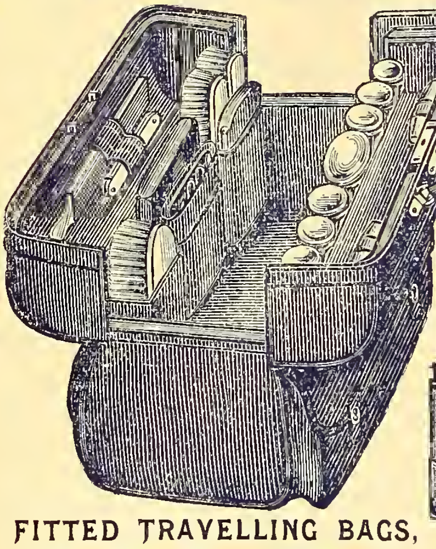

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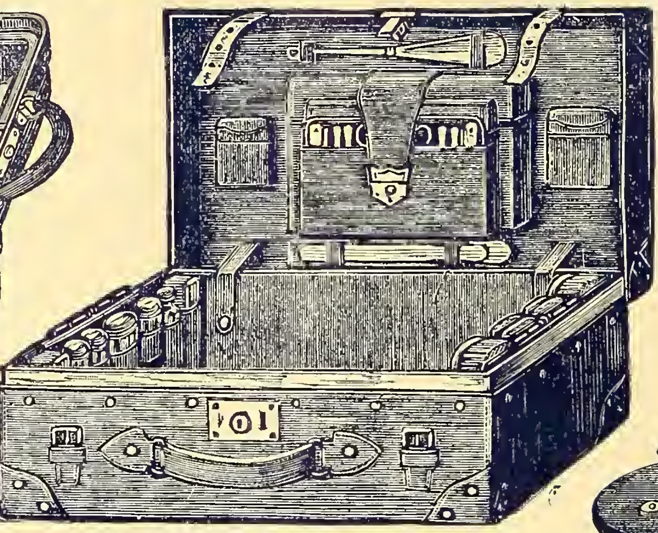

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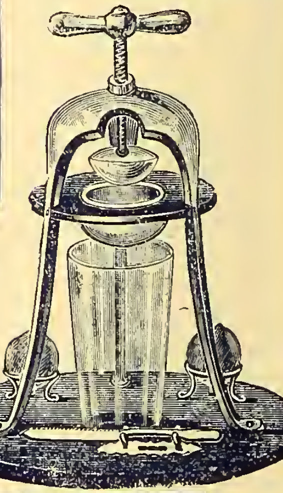

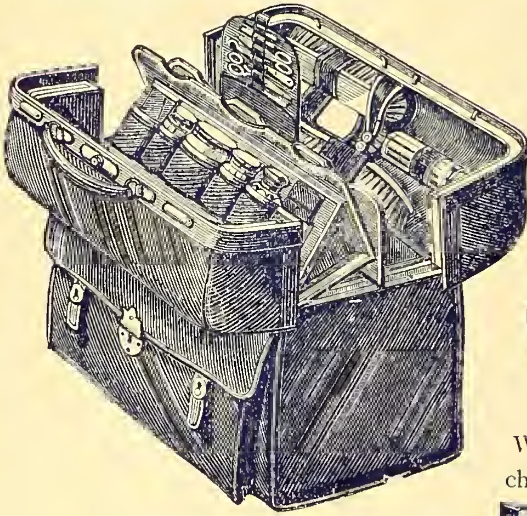

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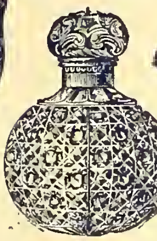

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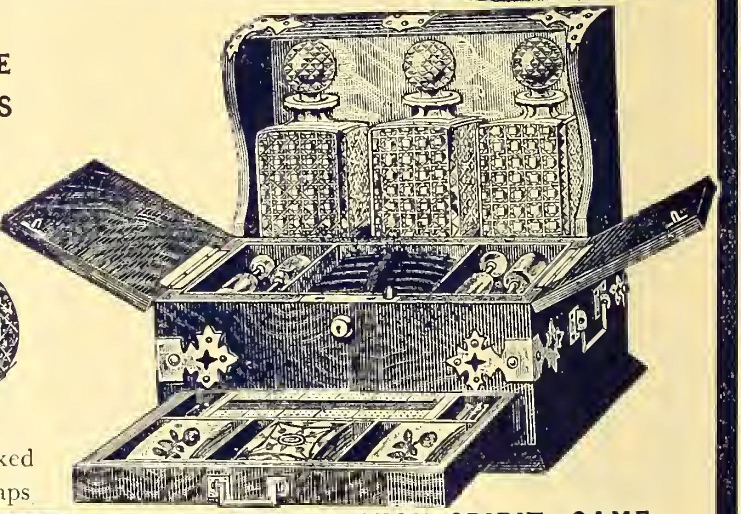

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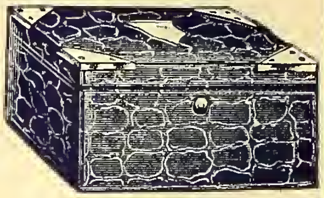

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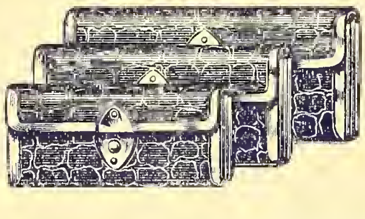

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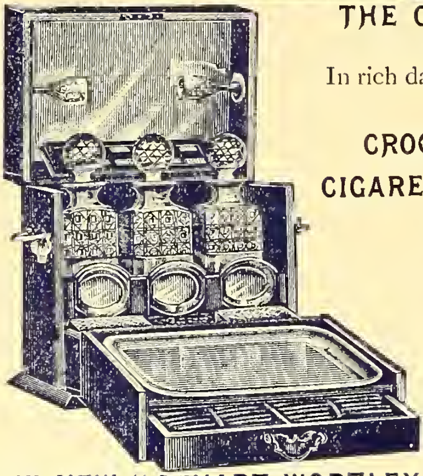

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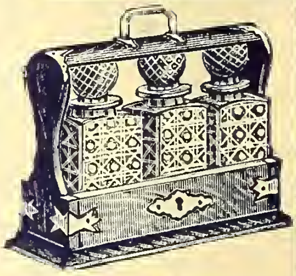

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The
Watchmaker, Jeweler and Silversmith.

EDITED BY W. J. LEWIS ABBOTT, F.G.S.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.] [*Registered for Transmission Abroad.*

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ADVERTISEMENTS.—There is a fixed printed tariff for trade advertisements, which will be forwarded on application. All prepaid situation and similar advertisements are inserted at 6d. per line (minimum 1s.). Name and Address in the Buyers' Guide, One Guinea per annum, payable in advance.

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS.—Manuscripts should be written clearly on one side of the paper only, and should in every case be accompanied by the name and address of the sender; where payment is expected, a definite statement to that effect should be made. The Editor cannot be responsible for missing MSS., but every care will be taken of copy submitted for consideration.

INQUIRIES.—Information is given, whenever possible, to inquirers, who are requested to assist by giving the fullest details of the matters to which their questions relate. In special cases replies will be given through the post, and for this purpose addressed and stamped envelopes must be supplied.

PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, & DESIGNS.—Arrangements have been made with an expert whereby subscribers to this journal can receive information respecting these free of charge. Letters of inquiry must be addressed to the Editor of THE WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, AND SILVERSMITH, Patents, Trade Marks, and Design Department, 68, Fleet-street, London, E.C., and must in every case contain stamped and directed envelope for reply.

The Australian Pearl Fisheries.—The captain of the pearling schooner Anne, while fishing in waters off Angle Island, near the West entrance to the Flying Foam, recently took a beautiful egg-shape pearl of exceptional lustre, weighing 52 grains. This is by no means the first large pearl which this pearler has been fortunate enough to discover; but pearls of this weight of good shape are only very few and far between. This one will probably fetch four figures, and, of course, if it could be paired its value would be greatly increased. But pearling life is very dangerous.

ENTRE NOUS
HARPOCRATES.

By the Editor.

THE LONDON WHOLESALE JEWELERS' AND ALLIED TRADES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Association has just celebrated its first anniversary, and from the report issued both officers and members have much upon which to be congratulated. All the preliminaries of organisation and experiment have been successfully gone through, and the Association established on good working lines, with a definite course to pursue upon all the main interests of the trade. This is, perhaps, only what we should expect when we see so representative a body of gentlemen acting as officers Naturally, in the first year a great deal of feeling about has to be done, and legal points made quite clear as to what is within the province and power of the Association to accomplish. A whole survey of the grievances and wrongs of the trade has to be made, and a selection of those with most pernicious influences thoroughly studied, with all their intricacies, before they can be anything like successfully combated. One of the first evils of the trade was made unduly prominent by a certain bankruptcy in the early part of the year, and the Association immediately set to work to try what could be done in connection with the pawning of goods by traders. Then followed communications with the London Chamber of Commerce, which, as many of our readers are aware, is well represented by the members of the Association, and the formation of sub-committees to thresh out thoroughly the existing state of things, with the result that defective points of the law were recognised, and no opportunity will be lost to obtain the necessary reform in Parliament. They have also at considerable trouble and expense obtained counsel's opinion as to the best method to be adopted to prevent this crying evil, and it only requires the rest of the trade to join the Association and follow its suggestions for this abomination to be a thing of the past. Another great work of the Association during the year has been the notification to its members of the various frauds that have been—and always are—attempted upon the trade. There appears a faithful bond between the members of the Association, all of whom give information, which is duly registered for the benefit of the members. This of course must not be understood to imply that the Association is a kind of inquisition on the retail trade, but rather that, rogues being kept out, a more extensive confidence may be accorded to those who are known to be of honorable intentions. We are informed that in the "collecting of accounts" branch the Association has great cause to be pleased with the good results and small expenses. Whenever possible, estates have been kept out of the Bankruptcy Court, with all its expensive paraphernalia, and the course they adopt is admitted to assist materially both debtor and creditor. With all these good effects to be obtained, and still more to follow, one is tempted to wonder how it is that a wholesaler in the trade can miss them all for the sake of £2 2s. a year, which, we believe, covers also an unlimited number of inquiries. Not even the most pessimistic and evil-minded could now regard the Association as an enterprise which may or may not succeed. It has passed its preliminaries; it is thoroughly established; it has a balance in hand, and the confidence of its members.

GOLD IN IGNEOUS ROCKS.

In our last number reference was made by our Kimberley correspondent to some pieces of rock he had sent us, and from his remarks readers probably gathered that something of importance was behind. We regret we have not been able to complete our investigations in connection with these, but we are able to state definitely that the rocks sent are *of igneous origin and contain large quantities of gold.* One specimen, which comes from Matabeleland, is what is known as a diorite; and from its somewhat altered condition would be regarded by many as an epidiorite. The diorites are rocks of volcanic origin, and in structure are granitoid, but as a rule of finer grain than an ordinary granite and darker in color. They differ chiefly from the syenites (*e.g.*, Cleopatra's Needle) in having plagioclase as the dominant felspar. Another prominent constituent mineral is hornblende, and when the latter has been derived by alteration from augite the rock is regarded as an epidiorite. The rock is thus a holocrystalline one, that is, it is composed entirely of crystals without the occurrence of any paste or matrix, which is of great importance in the case under consideration. Throughout the whole of the rock the gold lies scattered in microscopic nuggets, yet not so small as to be invisible to the naked eye, the rich full yellow showing up against the background mass of the rock. Occasionally the gold takes on lenticular crystalline forms characteristic of the precious metal, at others it appears to have been deposited simultaneously with the formation of the hornblende crystals; and when viewed under the Leikeerkhun a perfect skeleton of the crystal is seen in gold, separated by spaces indicative of the cleavage of the material. Under the microscope, especially a fine binocular, and the illumination before referred to, with, say, a quarter-inch objective, the rock becomes perhaps one of the most beautiful and interesting objects yet turned out from Nature's workshop. This gold is accompanied by a slight quantity of what appears to be arsenical pyrites. No analysis has yet been completed, but one is in progress, and will ultimately be published by us. This is not the only rock of a similar character that we have from South Africa. We are not prepared to publish any further particulars at present, but the importance of these discoveries will immediately strike everyone, especially in their bearing upon our ideas of the origin of the precious metal. We may yet live to recall many of the harsh things we have said of the alchemists, and may yet turn our attention to the furnace for the production of the precious yellow metal!

THE COVENTRY WATCH CASE.

An extremely important case has just been decided in the High Court of Justice, between two well-known and prominent members of the Coventry trade, Messrs. Thorneloe and C. J. Hill. We must say we would rather have seen such a case kept out of the courts, as it revealed a state of things which has received some very unfavorable criticism from those outside the trade. The question was whether the former could stop the latter from placing upon his watches the name and description, "Forrest," "John Forrest," "John Forrest, London," or "John Forrest, Chronometer Maker to the Admiralty." Of course, one would expect, with a Merchandise Marks Act in operation, it would be impossible to find watches bearing false trade descriptions. The definitions on this point of Mr. Justice Romer, therefore, become of great interest to the trade, and may serve to show many well-intentioned and honorable people that they are conducting their business upon illegal lines. The case lasted four days, and therefore cannot be given *in extenso*, but the main facts are these:—

A man named John Forrest carried on in his own name the business of a watch manufacturer in London. He used to put on the face of his watches the words "John Forrest, London," and on the back plate the words "John Forrest, chronometer maker to the Admiralty, London, E.C." As a matter of fact he was not chronometer maker to the Admiralty (but this fact was purposely disregarded by his lordship, as he decided the case on broader grounds). In 1871 he died, and his administratrix sold his business and goodwill to Carley and Co. Now, Carley and Co. never carried on business under the name of John Forrest, or at any house or in any street where John Forrest ever carried on business, nor did they ever use that name in their business except in the following way:—Until 1874, on some of their watches, and in particular until the 7th of February, 1874, on the watches they sold to one James Edey, of Peebles, they put the above-mentioned inscriptions that John Forrest used to put on his watches. On February 7th, 1874, by an indenture of that date, Carley and Co. purported to grant to Henry Stewart and Co., Limited, of Liverpool, for seven years from that date the sole right of manufacturing watches with John Forrest's name inscribed thereon, and Carley and Co. agreed that during the licence they would not manufacture or sell any watches as the watches of John Forrest or with his name inscribed thereon. Accordingly, during those seven years Henry Stewart and Co., Limited, in the course of and as part of their watch-making business, manufactured and sold watches with the above-mentioned inscriptions thereon, and Carley and Co. ceased to put the name of John Forrest on any of their watches. After the expiration of the seven years, and until they failed in 1890, Carley and Co. did not put on the watches they made and sold the name of John Forrest except (it was said) on a few. As to those few, there was only the evidence of Mr. Gent (one of the firm), and the conclusion his lordship came to on his evidence was that, even if his memory did not mislead him as to any watches being so marked, they were so few as to constitute a wholly unsubstantial sale. When Carley and Co. failed they assigned their assets to Mr. G. N. Read, a trustee for the benefit of creditors. On the 28th of February, 1891, Read assigned to a Mr. Clemence the business carried on by Carley and Co. at the date of the failure and its goodwill and the lease of the premises in which Carley and Co. had carried on the business. Immediately afterwards, but on the same day, Read purported to assign, so far as he lawfully could, to the plaintiff, for £20, "the name, title, and goodwill of the business of John Forrest, trading under the style or title of John Forrest, chronometer maker to the Admiralty, London, E.C.," and it was under this assignment that the plaintiff, a watch manufacturer at Coventry, claimed. The plaintiff never had carried on his business in London, and had never carried on business under the name of John Forrest, nor had he even since the so-called assignment to himself used the name in his business except by placing it on some of his watches.

In delivering judgment, Mr. Justice Romer said:—

Assuming the assignment to the plaintiff could be said to pass anything, having regard to the prior assignment to Mr. Clemence, it was clear to his lordship's mind that it could only pass or purport to pass the right to use the name of John Forrest as a thing in gross wholly unconnected with any real or substantial business. No doubt the plaintiff "ventured the small sum of £20 for such right to the name of John Forrest as Read might possibly be able to assign, because he had some experience in the name of John Forrest," which was "derived from the fact that prior to the failure of Carley and Co., and without any leave sought or given, he had made for four different customers of his watches on which by their direction he had himself put the words 'John Forrest, London.'"

Under these circumstances his lordship did not think the plaintiff had the right contended for by him.

Carley and Co. undoubtedly bought the goodwill of John Forrest's business. Now, speaking generally, a purchaser of a business, if he continues it, has the right to use the trade name and trade marks of the business in any way he pleases which is not calculated to deceive. And in particular, as a rule, the purchaser may mark goods made by him in the course of that business with the name of the vendor, although the vendor or his old workmen did not make or assist in making such goods, and by so marking the goods the purchaser would not be considered as doing that which was calculated to deceive his customers or the public. But in cases where deception would arise, or would probably arise, from the marking of the vendor's name, or from the way in which it was marked, then the marking would be fraudulent, and the purchaser could not be heard to say, after a course of such fraudulent marking, that thereby his goods so marked had come to represent goods made by him as the vendor's successor in business. For instance, when the goods sold in a business are of an artistic character, and during the vendor's time acquired their reputation and depended for their value upon his personal skill, then, if his retirement from the business were kept secret, a purchaser of his business would not be entitled to sell the goods not made by the vendor marked with his name. But assuming the watches made by Carley and Co., and marked by them with John Forrest's name, were rightly so marked, and that up to February 7th, 1874, they could honestly say that watches so marked represented goods made either by John Forrest or by his successors in business—I say I will assume this, as I wish to guard myself from the supposition that I so decide having regard to the facts, and in particular to the fact that Carley and Co. marked their watches not only with the words "John Forrest, London," also with the description "John Forrest, chronometer maker to the Admiralty." I think that description was marked in order to set forth the personal qualification of the maker and as a matter of importance, and in order to impress those into whose hands the watches should come with the idea that the watches were made by or under the supervision of one holding the responsible position of chronometer maker to the Admiralty. And, even if Carley and Co. could justify their marking of the name of John Forrest on the ground that it only meant themselves as the successors of John Forrest, I do not see how they could at the same time with propriety identify themselves with the description of chronometer makers to the Admiralty when they were nothing of the kind. During the seven years Henry Stewart and Co. (Limited) were expressly authorised by Carley and Co. to manufacture and sell watches stamped with the name of "John Forrest, London." That company, who carried on business in their own name, were not John Forrest or successors in the business of John Forrest, and were carrying on business in Liverpool, and not in London, and this to the knowledge of Carley and Co. How, after that, could Carley and Co. be heard to assert that the name of John Forrest, London, on watches still represented and meant that the watches were made either by John Forrest or by his successors in business? To so assert would be to admit that they had authorised the Liverpool company to commit a fraud on the public. The deed of February 7th, 1874, did not assign or purport to assign any business or any part of the business of Carley and Co. to the Liverpool company. It was a mere grant of a licence to use the name of John Forrest, and I need scarcely say that, apart from the other objections to the licence purported to be granted, a trade name or mark cannot validly be assigned in gross. When the licence expired Carley and Co., who had ceased during the seven years to use the name of John Forrest in any way whatever in their business, had, in my opinion, lost any right they might previously have had to say that any person marking watches "John Forrest" thereby represented that they were watches manufactured by them, or in the course of their business. This being the position of affairs at the end of the licence, certainly Carley and Co. did not by the time of their failure regain any right, even if they could possibly have done so, for, as I have pointed out, there was in the meantime no substantial manufacture or sale by them of watches marked. And if Carley and Co. at the date of their failure had no such right, they could not assign it to Read, nor could Read assign it to the plaintiff. And if Carley and Co. had no such right at the time of their failure, they could not have then obtained an injunction against the defendant for stamping watches with the name of John Forrest, nor could the plaintiff acquire through them the right to such an injunction, even if he had acquired all their business, for all that the defendant is doing that can be complained of by the plaintiff is marking his watches with John Forrest's name. That is, in my opinion, a very improper proceeding, because it is a fraud on the public, but it does not enable the plaintiff to support this action. To entitle the plaintiff to an injunction he must have been able to establish (there being no question of trade mark) that such marking by the defendant was calculated to deceive the public or customers into the belief that the goods so marked were goods made in the course of the business belonging to the plaintiff. And this he could not do, for the reasons I have pointed out. But the matter does not stop there. Even assuming that Carley and Co., or Read as their trustee, could, if no assignment had been made, have restrained the defendant, the plaintiff, who, in my opinion, can only claim to be a mere assignee in gross of the right to the name of John Forrest, cannot sue the defendant. The plaintiff is in no real or true sense an assignee of the business of Carley and Co. or of any severed or severable part of it. The wording of the so-called assignment to him is relied on by him, and in particular the use of the word "goodwill." But the words used meant nothing more than that Read purposed to transfer, if and so far as he could, to the plaintiff the right to the mere name of John Forrest, and such advantages, if any, as could be said to attach to such a right. As I have before pointed out, the right merely to use a name as a property in itself cannot be validly assigned so as to confer rights as against the public, nor can any advantages whatever as against the public attach to any attempted assignment of the sort. Lastly, I should point out that, ever since the death of John Forrest, Carley and Co. and those claiming through them have never used the name of John Forrest except by stamping it on goods—that is to say, as a trade mark. They could not insist that it was or is a trade mark or claim rights on that ground for many reasons, one of which is that they have never registered or applied it under the Trade Marks Acts; and, not being able to do this, still less could or can they do what in substance the plaintiff is seeking to do in this action—namely, treat a name as being property in itself which gives a right of action against any person using the name without their permission, wholly irrespective of any other consideration. I have stated sufficient to show why, in my judgment, the action should be dismissed, and I accordingly dismiss it. But, having regard to the conduct, or rather misconduct, of the defendant in relation to his use of the name of John Forrest, I dismiss the action without costs.

There was a second action, in which H. S. Read was defendant, and by consent the decision in "Thorneloe v. Hill" applied to this action also.

AN UNPRECEDENTED TRAGEDY.

Ghastly and horrible as are the annals of crime, it is questionable whether the oldest man living can remember a tragedy so diabolical as that perpetrated on the 5th ult. in Newington Causeway. Here in the afternoon a jeweler's establishment was entered by a demon who had not yet reached manhood, with the express purpose of robbery and murder. This scoundrel first shot the senior assistant, then the junior and the proprietress, and further attempted the life of another human being—a young girl—who put in an appearance. After this he tried to escape, but having been run to bay he presented his deadly weapon at the police officer, but having realised his position he turned the barrel of the revolver towards his own fiendish head, and rid the world of one of the greatest mistakes which Nature ever made. This creature in man's form is said to have been about twenty years of age, and by profession a burglar, and had already undergone several terms of imprisonment. Of course, when he passed the bullet into his own head he was of the opinion that the shots had proved fatal to his other victims; but in this we are glad to say he was mistaken. All three are progressing favorably, and we are sure the deepest sympathy of the trade is accorded to Mrs. Myers and her assistants in having been thus made the victims of this abnormal crime. There is also another aspect put upon this case by evidence adduced at the inquest on the suicide-burglar. It appears that he showed a man, who at present keeps a grocery store in Bermondsey, the pistols, telling him that he intended to use them upon the inmates of this house if he could not otherwise obtain a diamond necklace which excited his cupidity. It further appears that these two men made each other's acquaintance in prison, and that the grocer, having obtained information of the fact that a burglary and possible murder were about to be committed, went to the police-station and told the authorities that such was going to take place, but refused to give further information unless paid for it. Of course, they could not do that, and such is the law that the man was allowed to go away with his secret, which would have prevented possibly a triple crime. We hope something will be done to amend our laws so as not to allow a repetition of this. For had the murders been accomplished he would have been in as great a degree an accessory before the fact as ever was put into the dock; as it is, we hope something will be done to punish him. In the meantime, it is extremely hard that jewelers should be so exposed to the outrageous and murderous hands of criminals; and ere long society will have to realise that it ought to pay them for playing the part of scapegoat to the condition of things which brings its members ease and luxury. It is only another phase of the window-smashing question, in which some remedial measures will shortly have to be adopted.

MARKETS.

Silver.

DURING the first week of the month, the precious white metal rose from 31½d. to 31¾d., which price it retained for nearly a fortnight; then a depression set in, and on going to press it is standing at 30⅞d.

Tin.

TIN is still on the unaccountable down grade. Probably no metal has ever fallen like this for seven consecutive months from £93 to £71 10s., the latter being its price on going to press.

Copper.

THE copper market has been in a miserable state all the month, weakening all through from £43 to £41 10s.

Spelter.

SPELTER has, perhaps, kept the most constant, varying from £16 12s 6d. to £16 1s. 3d.

Quicksilver.

THE mobile metal has also been on the down grade, slipping from £6 7s. 6d. to £5 17s. 6d.

Technical Instruction for Jewelers' Diamond Mounters.—The only class in technical instruction that exists in London for the jeweler recommenced at 8 p.m. on Friday, January 12th, 1894, at the Polytechnic, Regent-street, W. One syllabus, which is issued by the City and Guilds Institute, for the advancement of technical education, is called "Goldsmiths' Work and the Manufacture of Personal Ornaments." It includes many matters of use and interest to all workers in the precious metals, and all details can be obtained on application to the Secretary, at the Polytechnic. The fee is 5s. for the term of four months. The students in this class, in two years, have taken six out of eight medals offered in competition to the United Kingdom, and money prizes to the value of £12, besides certificates and book prizes. The same teacher, Mr. H. Stapleton, is conducting them, and we wish them *more* extended success.

OUR SPECIAL PLATE.

FIG. 1. Chatelaine. Gold shield, scroll turned ends, surmounted by ribbon. *Fac-simile* name in diamonds; the ground of the shield to be deep cherry red enamel, with an outside line of French grey.

FIG. 2. Bracelet in gold, diamonds, and enamels. The cherub's head should be carefully enamelled, the wings in platinum and tinted gold, or diamonds. The pendant should be either the new "Golden Cornelian" or chrysoprase. The head and wings should be convertible to a brooch.

FIG. 3. Scent bottle for chatelaine, in gold or silver. The flutings should be in enamel. The band beneath these should be set with rubies, and the lower band with half pearls. The scrolls should be in the new enamel.

FIGS. 4 and 6. Beetles for brooches, pins, or hairdress, in either enamels in natural colors, or carved stones.

FIG. 5. Pendant, suitable for bride's or bridesmaid's present. Cupid tying two hearts together. The figure should be properly enamelled, and with delicate blue wings. The hearts should be in colored gold, or some of the new popular stones. The drop and pendant should be enamel, and the ribbon similarly treated with a harmonising or contrasting hue.

FIG. 7. Scent bottle for chatelaine, in gold or silver. The design on the body should be in enamels, the overlapping plates should terminate in half-pearls or gems. The coarse milling in the stopper and base could also be represented by small half-pearls.

FIG. 8. Reversed monogram of the letter B, for either engraving or piercing.

FIG. 9. Monogram D G, for either engraving or piercing; half or full carved.

FIG. 10. Design for lady's belt. The ground should be French grey, and the delicate scroll ornament raised gold. The same could be made with the ornament in raised fluted gold, with rich dark ruby transparent enamel ground. The rim and shield should be in colored gold.

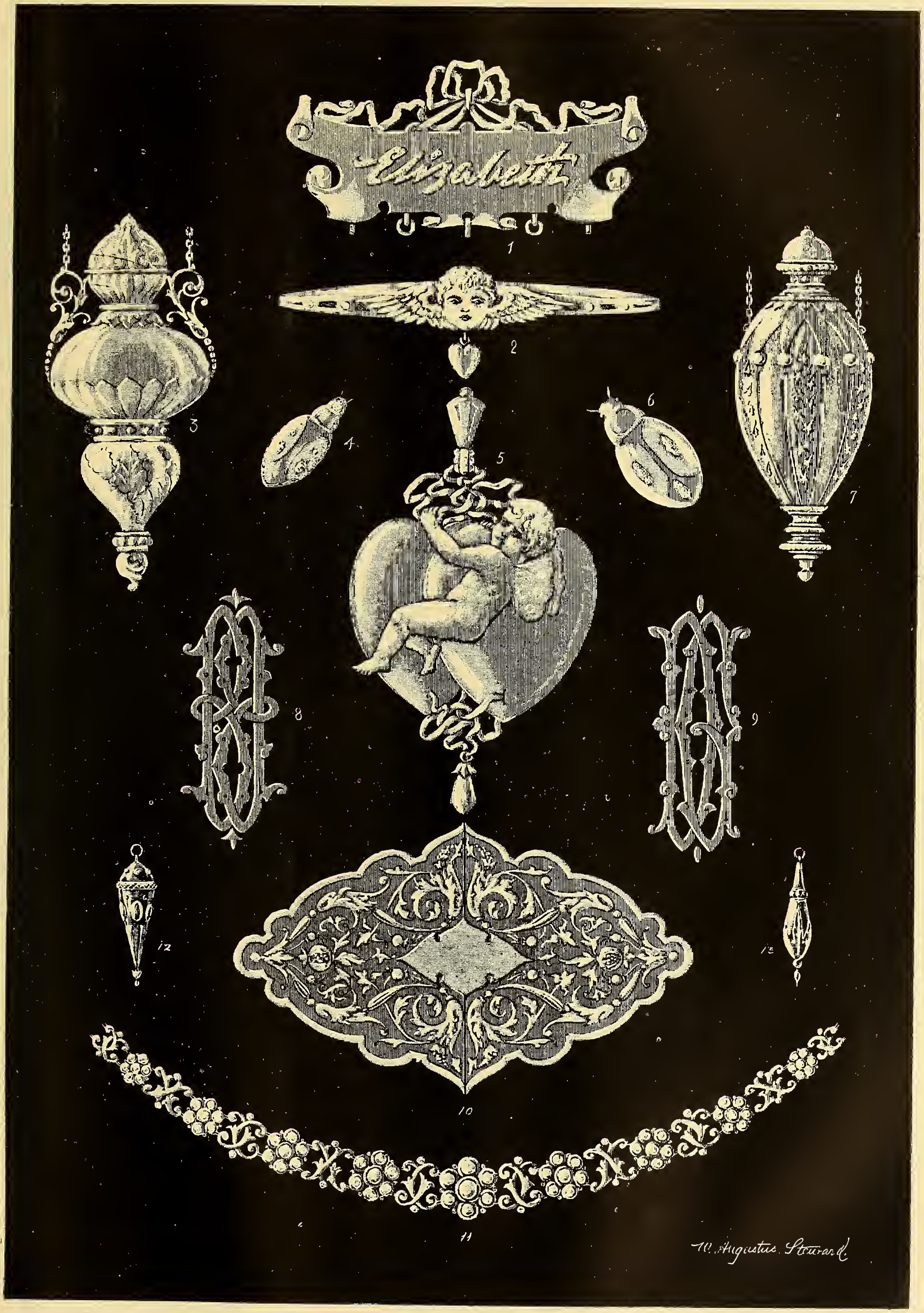
FIG. 11. Design for necklace in half-pearls and the new enamels; the hue of the latter could be either whole-colored of, say, cherry red or dark blue, or they could be chromatic.

FIGS. 12 and 13. Drops for the new half-pearl and enamel necklaces. Could be used with an infinity of capitals, and by graduating size form complete articles.

London Wholesale Jewelers and Allied Trades' Association.

THE first annual meeting of this Association was held at the offices, 17, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., on Tuesday, January 16th. The report, which dealt very fully with the work during the past year, and accounts were unanimously adopted. The retiring officers and the members of the Committee were re-elected, Mr. Bedford (Robbins and Appleton) and Mr. T. Baxter (Grimshaw and Baxter) being added to the Committee, which now consists of Messrs. T. Baxter, Bedford, B. Ehrmann, H. Kemp, R. M. Marples, W. H. Smellie, and S. Strauss, with Mr. Harry W. Atkins as chairman, and Mr. Lawrence Hasluck as secretary. An interesting discussion took place on the appro. note question, as to which the Committee have recently obtained counsel's opinion. This is to be considered by a special sub-committee, the matter being thought one of the very greatest importance to the trade at large. Votes of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and to the officers and Committee for their past services, terminated the proceedings.

Death of an Old and Highly Respected Horologer.—Weston-super-Mare has recently lost one of its oldest and most highly respected inhabitants, in the person of John Rossiter, at the ripe old age of eighty-three. For fifty-one years this grand old fellow has lived in this favorite resort a most irreproachable life, his whole energies being expended on the benefiting of his fellow-man. For some years he had a seat on the Local Board, and was a prominent teetotaler and local Baptist preacher. He had been ailing for some weeks, and ultimately died from pneumonia following a bronchial cold.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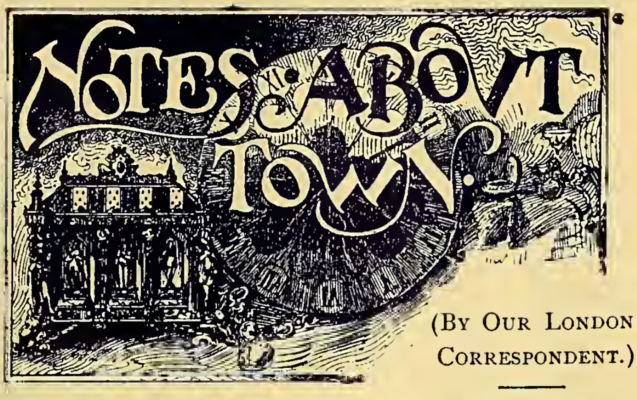

(By Our London Correspondent.)

If there have been many better New Year's trades than the one just past, it is equally certain there have been many worse. There have been no rushes, it is true, but a large quantity of goods of one sort or another has changed hands. Certainly there is an infinite variety of goods to tempt the money-spending public, and of novelties there is a profusion.

Amongst the latter that I have not already described is the "naughts and crosses" jewelry. Here the well-known four lines, making the nine spaces of our school days, are reproduced in gold, the spaces being occupied by naughts and crosses; sometimes with the game won, at others with only two places secured by each of the contending parties. There is probably more novelty than beauty in these things, but still they are bought. Sometimes these are produced in gold, with the naughts and crosses in enamel, at others they are made entirely of the precious metal. As a brooch the idea results in a somewhat square, solid pattern, and does not look at all bad. As a scarf-pin it probably looks better; but as a bracelet, the links of which are the alternate figures of the game, it is strong, useful, and rather pretty. Perhaps, however, after all, the idea lends itself best to cuff links, which long since have been made in patterns somewhat similar.

Twisted wire patterns are greatly on the increase, so much so that there is scarcely an article that is not now made in this style—jewelry, silver, nick-nacks, and things out of number. There are some beautiful E.P. or silver clocks and barometers in this style to be seen in many of the West End windows, and I have recently seen these at Messrs. Cooper's, Thavies Inn, who also informed me that they were having a run just now on cheap enamel jewelry.

A watch stand that has recently appeared, and been taken up by all the leading houses, is in the form of a lyre. In this the watch fits firmly when not in the pocket, and forms quite a nice little thing for either the boudoir or any other room. I believe it is the production of Messrs. Weill and Co.

With the general tendency to the shortening of hours I notice that Messrs. Henry Lewis and Co., of New Bond-street, have commenced on the New Year to close their establishment at two o'clock on Saturdays. Now that they have done this no doubt other large firms will follow. Of course the generality of retail houses could not do this, but all might materially shorten their business hours if a greater unity of feeling existed among them.

In glancing through the various windows of the trade it has often suggested itself to us that we are not so patriotic as the bootmaker in the legend. To him there was "nothing like leather," but we do not say "nothing like silver," or "nothing like metal." One is often pained to see a glass displaying the most expensive articles with rough unpolished edges. Even when a shelf is polished at its edges it is often anything but an ornament, and all sorts of things have been tried to remedy this evil. Perhaps the best thing brought out is that of Messrs. Elkington, who employ a metal gallery edging about 1¼in. wide. This can be made in either bronze or oxydised silver. It gives a remarkable finish to a window, with an exceptionally good appearance.

It must be a great pleasure to all to note the fact that nearly all our novelties at present on the market are of London origin. I asked recently a prominent member of the trade, who had just returned from Paris, in what lines the novelties of the French capital lie, when he replied, "Bombs and infernal machines." These wretched destroyers of life and property are made not only of gold, but of semi-precious stones. No accounting for tastes!

The desire for turquoise shows no abatement, and the lovely Hungarian opal, under the name "Golden Cornelian," is appearing in all the good houses in a variety of designs, always accompanied by diamonds, which go well with it. Transparent enamels and pearls are also multiplying, with or without the introduction of colored stones.

I hear great inquiries for muff chains since the Princess of Wales recently appeared with one. At several of the fashionable weddings lately these have been seen made of gold and enamel, with the addition of diamonds and pearls. More pearls are being worn in the hair *a l'aigrette*, and matronly dames are donning be-jeweled caps.

Both in day and evening dresses bodices are bestudded with diamond brooches and sprays, while the skirts are adorned with jeweled panels.

It appears that we have practically got to the end of the cycle and are again reverting to a heavier class of jewelry. Long earrings are now frequently seen and brooches of ponderous dimensions, while the slender little bangles are being replaced by massive bracelets.

Turning now from fashion's fickle fancies to the outcome of Fine Art skill and genius, we pause to revel in the charming artistic productions in art china that are to be found in the galleries of Messrs. John Round and Son, near Holborn-circus. Recently I spent some hours lost in admiration of the lovely combinations and blendings of artistic hues in the exquisite mounted china of various descriptions. Next to gems when at their very best, come the flowers of the keramic art. We may admire the work of the artist on a canvas, but there is a richness in fine china that is specially its own, and of this I can unhesitatingly say, I do not remember being so struck as by some of the patterns now on view at these galleries. The lovely tea-sets, sugars and creams and a half-score other things have left an impression on my mind I shall not readily lose; and anyone with a love of the beautiful and a desire to appeal to the higher taste of the public I should strongly advise to pay a visit to this beautiful stock. Of course, it does not stop with the mounted goods. The immense size of the Sheffield works would, naturally suggest an infinity of articles that are manufactured by this firm, all of which have a finish in keeping with the art-china they accompany.

Japan Enters the Horological Competition.—We hear the watch factory idea, to which reference was recently made in our columns, has taken well with the wily Japs, who have quickly seized on the opportunity of introducing a new industry into their country. The company has a nominal capital of 1,000,000dol., and with cheap coal and cheap labor, and a country quickly growing in its appreciation of timesters, they anticipate great things. They will also cater for their neighbors, the Celestials, who last year imported nearly 100,000 timesters of various descriptions. It is a great pity we have not looked after these markets better.

BIRMINGHAM
NOTES

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.*)

JANUARY cannot be characterised even by the most enthusiastic chronicler as a satisfactory month. It has disappointed the least hopeful by the unexampled dulness that has marked it from start to finish. As usual, many firms have been engaged taking stock, and, judging from the scarcity and smallness of sales, the result to most houses must have been, to say the least, unsatisfactory. At any rate, the results to manufacturers have been practically *nil*, for fully 50 per cent. of the stocks has gone away without buying anything, and in the remaining cases the parcels sold have been more suggestive of July than January. We may consider the actual business done to be less than ever, and the month, as a consequence, to be the worst January on record.

LOOKING back to the really brisk state of things at Christmas, it is difficult to realise the entire change which took place in a few days, and it is equally difficult to account for it. The general outlook would appear to be *at least* as promising as it was twelve months ago. We have the dispute in the coal trade well in course of settlement, a distinct improvement in trade with India, Australia, and the Cape, and a prospect of good orders from the United States immediately the infamous McKinley Tariff is revised; and yet eight out of ten jewelers, whether manufacturers or factors, seem to have convinced themselves that it is going to be a bad year. Well, in a measure they may be right. That is, we may not have a better year than last; but, at any rate, there is not the slightest reason why we should have a worse one. Prices in every department are at the lowest possible point, and any alteration *must* be for the better in this respect.

THE worst sufferers by the depression are perhaps the older firms who either fall out of line by refusing to do business on modern methods, or else run to the opposite extreme, and make things worse by illjudged cutting of prices and extension of credit. It is a pity that men who have made their pile do not recognise the fact that they and their methods are in nine cases out of ten *passés* and that their grasping after more may eventually be fatal to them. Perhaps no trade undergoes more continual change than the jewelry, and, speaking of course generally, old men are unable to bring to bear the mental vigor required for success. This is the true explanation of the collapse of dozens of houses, and I could name many men who have fallen from a position of absolute wealth into the depths of poverty simply because they couldn't see that their methods were dead and gone.

THE local jeweler will hear with satisfaction that the association has at last completed arrangements for the extra police protection required by the quarter. It is certainly not before it was time, but there are still two months of long nights, and we must be thankful that the matter has been successful at all, for it has required some considerable effort to induce sufficient firms to adhere to the scheme.

WHILE I write a rumor reaches me of the failure of a large and old-established firm of manufacturers, whose name for the present I forbear to mention, though it will doubtless be common property by the time these Notes are in print. I was certainly surprised myself, and I think many others will be so too, as the firm in question have long carried on a lucrative business. Have they also made the mistake of sticking to commerce too long?

I AM pleased to see that the local Operative Jewelers' Trade Society is resuming its annual soirée. Last year, for some reason of which I am ignorant, it was not held. The date is fixed for February 6th, and I may add for the benefit of any who have not heard of it that tickets may be had from Mr. James Grant, 167, Hockley-street, the secretary of the society. I trust the affair will be a success, and lead to an increase in the membership of the society. There are many directions in which a well-organised workman's association might do good both to master and man, and I hope to see something done in the near future. In a coming Note I shall, perhaps, endeavor to point out where such an organisation might advantageously exert itself.

THE sixth annual dinner of the Jewelers' and Silversmiths' Association took place, as will be seen in another column, at the Grand Hotel, on the 27th ult. The members are fortunate in having again secured the attendance of the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P. Mr. Chamberlain is an even greater authority on trade than on politics, and his utterances always command attention, more particularly since he always does his best to adapt them to the occasion for which they are intended. A guest of this calibre lends a sort of distinction to the Association, and gives it the appearance of an even greater importance than it really possesses. I note a much needed warning in the report as to the need of greater care in giving credit. I have, in previous Notes, struck the self-same chord, and am pleased to have some official support of my views.

I PRESUME no one will be much surprised to hear of the stoppage of Mills and Co., of Northampton-street. It is only a few years since the senior partner's old firm, E. J. Mills and Co., which was engaged in the Australian trade, failed for a considerable sum, and the creditors received a small dividend. In the present case I understand that the liabilities are about £3,000, while the assets are practically nil. The details elicited at the creditors' meeting the other day were of the usual character, and revealed a course of reckless pawning and sacrificing of stock at ruinous prices.

IT is really time an example was made of some of these reckless traders. It seems to be a matter which comes within the province of a trade association, but such does not appear to be the view of our local organisation, which is, perhaps, disappointed with the results already attained. It is of course hard lines, after securing a conviction at an incredible expense of time and money, to see your man walk off with a merely nominal sentence; but it is only by the regular and systematic prosecution of offenders that the trade can be protected from swindlers. A special fund ought to be created for this purpose, and there can be little doubt that the mere fact of its existence would exercise a beneficial influence. The commercial swindler is a coward of the lowest type, who selects his avocation simply because he knows he has nothing worse than a good bullyragging from two or three officials or an excited creditor to fear. If, on the other hand, he knew that any illegality would entail a prosecution, depend on it that in very many instances those acts would not be committed.

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[*] We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

The death of Mr. Edward Whitehouse, of Vyse-street, removes from our midst one of the oldest members of the trade. I understand that the business will continue as usual, under the management of his son, who has taken an active part in it for several years.

My readers will not fail to observe the new departure which has been made by Messrs. S. Blanckensee and Son, Limited, Frederick-street, who have opened a special department for the sale and purchase of businesses, valuation of stocks, and insurance against theft, burglary, and fire. It is no doubt a fact, as stated by Messrs. Blanckensee, that this is the first time in the history of the trade that a wholesale house has undertaken this kind of business, but it is an obvious development for a firm with such extensive ramifications. I am personally aware that the services of Mr. Aaron Blanckensee, the managing director, have been in great request for many years in the valuation and transfer of jewelry businesses, and there can be no question as to the value of his judgment in such transactions. At the same time carefully rendered help of this description will infallibly result in an extension of the ordinary business of the firm and create a favorable impression on those who benefit by it. I heartily wish them all success in their fresh venture, but I may add that I shall be rather surprised if they do not find more Richmonds in the field ere long.

I hear of several changes amongst factors' travellers during the present month. Mr. G. N. Hatton transfers his services from Mr. J. M. Banks, of Northampton-street, to Mr. N. J. Holmes, of Hockley-hill, while Mr. F. E. Spittle, who has represented Mr. R. J. Taylor for the past few years, goes to Messrs. Borton and Styles, of St. Paul's-square, his place being taken by Mr. Earp, late representative of Messrs. J. Mantle and Sons, Warstone-lane. Mr. Edward F. Braham's business has quite outgrown his Hockley-hill premises, so he has moved into larger ones in Vyse-street, where he will have room for still further expansion.

The trade in stones, real and imitation, seems to flourish exceedingly, and there are constantly new additions to its ranks, which for the most part remain unrecorded; but the latest venture, a branch of Messrs. Benoit Bros., which has just opened in Vyse-street in good style, seems to have come to stop.

The quantity of gilt and first-class paste jewelry now made in Birmingham is very large, and must be increasing yearly. Some of the leading makers produce designs fully equal to the average Parisian firms, while the goods themselves are superior in finish and durability. Doubtless, when the full influence of the Jewelers' Art School comes into play, we shall be able to keep out French goods altogether, but at present English designers are far behind their Continental rivals in richness of ideas, and seem quite unable to imitate the airy grace of their best designs.

The Inglefield Clip.—A Correction.—We were wrongly informed in connection with the rights of this clip. Messrs. Mordan and Co. hold an exclusive licence for the use of the action for pencil-cases only, and a *non*-exclusive licence for its use with other things, while Messrs. Saunders and Shepherd hold a non-exclusive licence for its employment in all articles other than pencil-cases.

Bravo, Randt!—We have great pleasure in publishing another record month of these marvellous gold mines, the grand total of 146,357 oz. being recorded for December, or only just under 150,000 oz., which the optimistic dreamer of a year ago ventured to prophesy would some day be reached. This swells up the year's output to nearly one-and-half millions of ounces!!! The total gold production of the world in 1892 is put down at between seven and eight million ounces, and still South Africa is increasing more than ever.

Examination Success.—We are pleased to learn that the son of Mr. J. Langdale, Caroline-street, Birmingham, was first in the list of awards at the recent examination in connection with the King Edward School, Birmingham, which is recognised as the best in the district. The fact that he obtained 170 marks more than any other competitor speaks well for his ability and prospects.

Cheap Silver.—Owing to the fall in silver, Messrs. Stokes and Ireland, of 83 and 84, Great Hampton-street, Birmingham, are bringing out some specially low-priced lines in fancy silver goods, amongst them being a small sized oval Queen Anne tea set, which they produce at a phenomenally cheap figure to meet a general request.

Compliments from the Transvaal.—Mr. Arthur Fenwick, 16, Augusta-street, Birmingham, has just received from the De Kaap Agricultural Society a flattering letter expressing their thanks and satisfaction for the medals executed by him for their last show, and adding that the medals, by their choice and varied designs, added greatly to the pleasure of the prizes.

"Wolframinium."—"Wolframinium," or "Roman Metal," is a name that has been applied to an alloy of exceedingly great promise. It consists of aluminium alloyed with small proportions of the tough heavy metal wolfram. Should this turn out to be as successful as it promises it will give a great impetus for the mining of this metal, large quantities of which exist in Cornwall. As a matter of fact we have been asked by several large metal brokers recently if we could inform them where the extra large quantities of this metal have been going to lately. Possibly it is being made up into this alloy. The specific gravities and melting points being almost at both extremes, a good medium metal ought to result, which we are informed really does, and one with all the properties of mild steel, combined with many of those of aluminium, but can be more readily manipulated, and can much more easily be stamped, or forged either hot or cold; it is, further, far more ductile and can be easily brazed or soldered. Recently its application to bicycles was shown at the Crystal Palace Show, and was much admired.

A Novel Feature in Catalogues.—We recently came upon a catalogue which gave us the greatest puzzle we have had for many a long day. Here was a catalogue of some six and thirty pages crammed full of blocks of every description of jewelry, which must have cost—well, we won't say what—but upon the cover was the name of a small jeweler, say, in the Rhondda Valley. Whatever could have enabled a tradesman like this to get up so expensive and comprehensive a catalogue, and why a retailer should send us his priced catalogue, was a mystery But the blocks appeared so familiar to us—in fact, we saw in a few minutes they were all goods supplied by A. Sydenham, of Frederick-street, Birmingham, and were just about to send the volume on to Jewelopolis, when we found out that it was the latest idea of that gentleman: that he has got up this priced catalogue, leaving blanks for the insertion of customers' names, so that the latter can have a complete, profusely illustrated, fully-priced catalogue, without the trouble of editing it, at a price less than the cost of printing. Everyone with a small sum can now have a catalogue of which a large firm might be proud.

Does it Pay to Exhibit?—We are informed that Messrs. Doulton and Co., of pottery fame, shipped out to Chicago no less than 2,000 packages of their artistic productions. And see how the popularity of Doulton ware extends and the main potteries increase!

Rogers' Copying Preparation.—It is generally considered that unless a letter has just been written, and a special ink employed, it is impossible to make a copy from it by the ordinary letter-book process. Such is not the case. By the use of Rogers' copying preparation new or old letters may be copied, whether written with ordinary or copying ink. The advantage of such a preparation goes without saying, and we feel sure that many will feel indebted to us for calling their attention to it. There are numerous agents throughout the kingdom, but the headquarters are 9, Union-court, Liverpool.

Useful and Interesting.—We have just been lost in a large 200 page book which has something to say about so many things of interest to us. It is the catalogue of E. Gray and Son, 46 and 47, Clerkenwell-green, E.C. Dear old Clerkenwell! What changes have taken place since we first stood in the doorways of numbers 46 and 47. How all modern businesses that keep to the front have had to develop! It thus becomes all the more necessary for those living at a distance to keep in touch with the first-class houses. For this purpose nothing could be better than the volume to which we have just referred. It commences with chain fittings, or what are often—though very wrongly—called "materials," all of which are well illustrated, tabulated, and priced. Next we pass through sundries, which extend from cork to diamond powder. Then all sorts of chemical preparations claim a section, from soldering fluid, through glues, to marble varnishes—and what a lot of them! Next we see illustrations of all the various parts of watches, both English and Swiss, such as cylinders, hands, pinions, and so on; and in the next section clocks get even more of the engravers' skill. Then commences the interesting section of tools—we always love looking over these—as they always remind us that watchmakers are still alive. This latter division includes everything from a simple chaser up to the complicated lathes and rounding-up tools, of which we are so justly proud. The volume concludes with a price list of gems and imitations. If you have not got this useful catalogue we advise you to get it, you're sure to see something you can do with.

Birmingham Jewelers' and Silversmiths' Association.

THE sixth annual meeting of the Birmingham Jewelers' and Silversmiths' Association was held on January 23rd, at the Assay Office, Newhall-street. Councillor Tonks presided; and amongst others present were Councillor Green, and Messrs. W. H. Lord, E. T. Pendleton, P. H. Levi, W. H. Coley, F. Nathan, H. Griffiths, sen., B. H. Joseph, W. Best, J. F. Goode, W. Buncher, J. W. Harrison, J. Mantle, Allen Edwards (secretary), etc.

The report of the committee, read by the secretary, stated that since the annual meeting of 1893 twelve firms had been elected to membership of the association, and nine firms had resigned or ceased to be members. The present membership was 189. The attendances at the Art and Technical School showed a decided improvement as compared with previous years, and in the winter term, commencing January, 1893, they touched a higher figure than had before been attained. The work had been progressing favorably, being generally of a higher class than in previous years, due to the presence of a larger proportion of students who had continuously pursued their studies for several sessions. The number of entries for the winter term of 1893 was 280, as against 252 for the winter term of 1892. The number of entries for the autumn session of 1893 was 292, as against 321 for the corresponding term of 1892. A silversmiths' class was successfully started last term, from which the best results were anticipated. The committee again urged upon all employers the importance of nominating as many candidates of both sexes for admission as possible, as it was only by maintaining the numbers that the benefits of the schools could be widely spread and results obtained adequate to the large expenditure incurred. The committee looked upon the results of the technological examinations of the City and Guilds of London Institute as quite satisfactory, inasmuch as out of twenty-seven who sat for the examinations, eighteen passed in the ordinary and honors grades. The failures of wholesale jewelers had been happily few and comparatively unimportant. In three instances the association had been concerned in forcing estates into bankruptcy. In two of these prosecutions were pending. In one case a composition of 12s. 6d. in the £, all secured, was arranged, and in another case a composition of 15s. in the £, half secured. In a third instance the association were instrumental in obtaining the surrender by a secured creditor for the benefit of the creditors generally of book debts to the value of nearly £1,000, which had been assigned to him as security for his debt. While referring to the cases of insolvency, the committee could not refrain from expressing their opinion that the circumstances which came under their notice frequently revealed a recklessness in giving credit which was much to be regretted. The assignment of current book debts as security for cash loans had again been under the consideration of the committee, and they thought the only course was to keep the subject before Parliament and before the public by every means in their power. As a result of the shock to the trade arising from the recent thefts in the jewelry district, the committee gave their serious attention to the subject of better police protection locally at night-time. A sub-committee was appointed to deal with the matter, and a deputation waited upon the chief constable (Mr. Farndale) and the chairman of the Municipal Watch Committee (Mr. Wilders). Assistance was promised in the direction desired, and a scheme was laid down suitable for the district, which, at a cost of about £230 per annum, it was hoped would ensure almost perfect immunity from burglary. The treasurer's statement showed that there were balances to the good of £225 on the general account, £135 on the technical school account, £113 on the prosecutions fund, and £42 on the Vigilance Committee account.

In moving the adoption of the report, the Chairman said that in many respects it was very favorable. The membership, however, should be larger, considering there were probably 800 firms eligible. The expenditure was over £500 a year, and it was for the general benefit of the trade, and further support ought to be given the association from those concerned. With regard to the Art and Technical School, the students came in session after session in larger numbers, but the great difficulty the committee had to contend with was in getting the regular and continuous attendance of the students. Employers would do well to impress upon their apprentices the desirability of carrying on their studies.

Mr. Green seconded the motion, and emphasised the importance of the work of the Technical School, which he thought was the most important of the association's efforts to promote the well-being of the trade.

The motion was agreed to, and the election of officers proceeded with. Mr. Lord was appointed chairman, Mr. Levi vice-chairman, Mr. W. H. Small treasurer, and Mr. E. T. Pendleton secretary.

The annual dinner of the association was held on the following day at the Grand Hotel, and was a very brilliant affair. About 100 sat at the tables, the principal guest of the evening being the Right Hon. J. Chamberlain, M.P. The chairman of the association, Mr. W. H. Lord, presided; and amongst others present were Alderman Kenrick, M.P., Mr. Powell Williams, M.P., Councillors Martineau, Bowkett, Jacobs, and Tonks; and Messrs. P. H. Levi (vice-chairman of the association), W. H. Small (hon. treasurer), E. T. Pendleton (hon. secretary), E. R. Taylor (head master of the School of Art), L. Spiers, H. Westwood (assay master), B. H. Joseph. H. Davis, J. Wainwright, W. Buncher, S. J. Porter, A. Coleman, J. Haseler, H. Griffiths, F. Nathan, C. H. Price, R. Sydenham, R. Mayo, M. Nathan, L. J. Sharp, E. M. Haseler, J. Padmore, and Allen Edwards (secretary). The Mayor (Alderman Johnson) wrote thanking the association for their invitation, which he declined for the reasons given by him when he accepted office. His worship added that he was fully sensible of the valuable work carried on by the society. Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., Mr. J. A. Bright, M.P., Mr. H. Matthews, M.P., Mr. J. T. Bunce, Alderman Pollack, Councillor C. Green (who was suddenly called away to London), Councillor Bradley, and other gentlemen also sent letters of apology.

Mr. Chamberlain, who was enthusiastically received, proposed "The City and Trade of Birmingham" in an interesting speech, fully reported in the daily Press. He spoke of the jewelry trade as one which combined all the best characteristics of the old Birmingham industries; and referred with satisfaction to the harmony in the relations between capital and labor which had prevailed, with very few exceptions, and those not of great importance, for so long a time in the jewelry trade, and which was attributable, he thought, to the fact that many of those who were now employers had been at one time workmen themselves, or were the sons of workmen who by their energy and superior skill and industry, had raised themselves to the positions which they now enjoyed; and the consequence of this was that in a trade of this kind there was naturally more individuality, more independence, greater sympathy between employer and employed than were possible in those other trades which were monopolised by a few colossal firms, each with a whole army of employés. Mr. Powell Williams, M.P., acknowledged the toast.

Alderman Kenrick, M.P., in submitting the toast of "The Birmingham Jewelers' and Silversmiths' Association," congratulated the members on the vigorous signs of life and prosperity which distinguished that body. From the annual report he found that every year there was an accession to the number of members, and inasmuch as finance was at the bottom of all mundane affairs, he was glad to notice that in all spheres of activity the association had a balance to the good amounting in the aggregate to £570. (Applause.) The hon. gentleman dwelt upon the functions discharged by the association, which amongst other things, he said, endeavored to provide that there should be fair trade as regarded members and their customers. The association endeavored to prevent dishonest dealings, to suppress thieving, and to catch the receiver of stolen goods; and in connection with the illegal disposal of waste metal the association had taken the right course in warning pawnbrokers and others on the subject. Then, perhaps even more important to the future of the trade, there was the interesting Technical School. He heartily concurred with the sentiment expressed in the report, that what was good for the trade as a whole was for the benefit of the individual members of it. They could not too firmly hold by that opinion and put it into practice. He had a strong belief in the virtue of association. So firmly did he believe in it that he felt convinced that sooner or later the Jewelers' Association would seek a more permanent form by getting themselves incorporated, possibly by Royal charter or by some other means. If they did that he believed they would increase their power for usefulness and their dignity as a body. (Applause.) If they got a charter of incorporation he saw no reason why the duties of assaying the metal should not be discharged by themselves. Then they would want a trade or guild hall, with an art library, and probably an art museum, and would desire to arrange exhibitions of work in metal, with awards for specimens of specially artistic value. Coming to the subject of the Art and Technical School, Alderman Kenrick said he was very glad to see a connection established between the School of Art and the Jewelers' Technical School. The latter was doing a very good work, although he noticed that the number of students showed somewhat of a falling off in the autumn term. The committee very properly appealed to employers to nominate students both for the boys' and girls' schools. He was glad there was the nucleus of a girls' class. The talent for artistic designing was not limited to the male sex. Some of the best designers in the School of Art were amongst the fair sex. (A Voice : "Shame," and laughter.) Why not? They were fair themselves, and why should not they design things fair and beautiful also? (Hear, hear, and laughter.) With regard to the School of Art and the Technical School, they had not yet been able to realise the ideal with which the two schools were started in connection with one another. That ideal was that students for admission to the Technical School should first pass through a training in the Art School, where the designs for the Technical School should be produced. The reasons they had not accomplished that state of perfection were twofold. First, the students in the Technical School were disinclined to go through the preliminary training in the Art School, and they represented to the committee that if they were not allowed to do exactly as they liked they would not go to the Technical School at all. Another reason was that work was expected in the Technical School which was neither designed nor drawn in the Art School. The former difficulty was experienced in the early days of the School of Art. Students fancied they knew better than their teachers as to what course they should pursue. The committee saw that difficulty, and grappled with it. Every student knew now he had to submit to the direction of Mr. Taylor, and there was no difficulty. He advised the Association Committee to be equally firm, to insist upon a preliminary training in the Art School, and he felt sure the trade would reap a great advantage. (Applause.)

The Chairman, in acknowledging the toast, thanked Alderman Kenrick for his sound advice, and expressed the belief that the Technical School would continue to grow, and prove an immense benefit to all connected with the trade. The association was already a real and effective force in the trade, and its influence would be even more powerful if it received the support it so richly deserved from those connected with the industry. (Applause.)

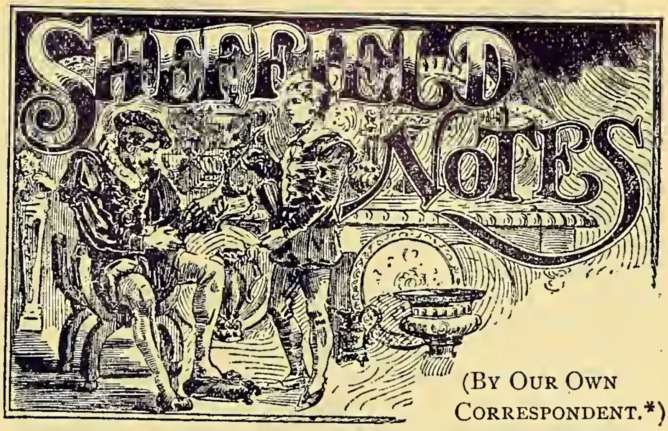
Mr. J. W. Tonks gave "Our Visitors," and referring to the Technical School said that, of course, it was only in its experimental stage. When its promoters started it they wore the grave and serious aspect that Mr. Chamberlain attributed to Birmingham babes — (laughter) — and the movement was yet only in its infancy, so that the committee still felt very anxious about it. Mr. R. F. Martineau, in responding, urged upon jewelers to send their sons to the municipal Technical School, where the classes for metallurgy would prove of immense benefit to the student.

"The health of the Chairman" was the last toast submitted, and that brought a very pleasant evening to a close. The toasts were interpolated with songs and instrumental music.

A Luxurious Timekeeper.

In their desire for the superlative, our American cousins often fish up accounts of some wonderful things. One of our contemporaries recently supplied the following :—

A wonderful timepiece was made in London about 100 years ago and was sent by the president of the East India Company as a gift to the Emperor of China. The case was in the form of a chariot, in which was seated the figure of a woman. This figure was of ivory and gold, and sat with her right hand resting upon a tiny clock fastened to the side of the vehicle. A portion of the wheels which recorded the flight of time were hidden in the body of a tiny bird, which had seemingly just alighted on the lady's finger. Above was a canopy so arranged as to conceal a silver bell. This bell was fitted with a miniature hammer of the same metal, and, although it appeared to have no connection with the clock, regularly struck the hours, and could be made to repeat by touching a diamond button on the lady's bodice. In the chariot at the lady's feet was a golden figure of a dog, and above and in front were two birds, apparently flying before the chariot. This beautiful ornament was made entirely of gold, and was elaborately decorated with precious stones.



(By Our Own Correspondent.*)

Although the modern Factory Acts have dealt the death-blow to the old Sheffield Bull Week, yet some of the customs connected with the institution still survive. On the day before Christmas Eve it was the universal practice to work all night and finish up at daybreak the next morning. All night long the factory windows blazed with light, and the sound of machinery and human voices gave an air of cheerfulness to the centre of the town. At the works of Messrs. James Dixon and Sons the workpeople had a very pretty custom of meeting at the dawn of day in the great entrance hall of Cornish Place, and singing the Christmas Hymn before separating. This interesting custom is still kept up, and was duly honored this year in the old-fashioned way, although "all night sittings" are things of the past. It formed a pretty picture—in the foreground the young girl burnishers, and in the background, packed on the great staircase, the artisans who had grown grey in the service of the firm, singing the same old hymn which has ushered in Christmas Eve in the same place for more than fifty years.

Men, as a rule, do not come and go in these large silver works, but as often as not go in as boys and come out when the work of life is done. Such has been the case with Mr. Peter Wragg, the managing director of Messrs. Martin and Hall, Limited, who has just passed away at a ripe old age. Mr. Wragg entered the service of Messrs. Roberts and Hall, as the firm was originally called, as a youth, and rose gradually to the position of managing director through a happy combination of industry, ability, and integrity. It falls to the lot of few men to be able to do his duty to the vast and complicated interests of a concern like Messrs. Martin and Hall's, and at the same time maintain the warm affections of his workpeople. This, however, Mr. Wragg succeeded in doing, and it is hard to say who will miss him most—the company of which he was the active head or the occupants of the workshop.

The silver trade has lost another member whose death has caused a vacancy which will not be confined to any one firm. Mr. Gillies Mackenzie approximated more to the art workman of the Middle Ages than to the artisan of the present day. In his hands silver engraving was no mere trade—it was high art. Wherever perfection was desired and cost no object, Mr. Mackenzie's services were in requisition. His command over his tool was marvellous, and the conceptions of a highly educated intellect were reproduced faultlessly on the precious metal. It was no doubt all too good for the British public, and it did not pay a manufacturer to have recourse too often to Mr. Mackenzie's workshop. This sordid consideration brings us down to the level of everyday manufacturing industry, out of which, it is sad to reflect, the very highest class of workmen do not make much. Not a few, however, who possess specimens of Mr. Mackenzie's handiwork will appraise them at their true value and guard them accordingly.

Our skill in the manufacture of cutlery, tools, silver ware, armor plates, and the like has been sufficiently attested, and is fully recognised by the world at large. It is perhaps not so generally known that we also make clocks in Sheffield. Such, however, is the fact, and the handiwork of Mr. E. Rippon, of the Wicker, has more than once been commented upon in these Notes. Mr. Rippon has just completed a very serviceable clock for the tower which surmounts the new premises of Messrs. Newton, Chambers and Co., at the corner of Norfolk and Furnival Streets. With the exception of one or two small items which it was found impossible to obtain here, every portion of the clock was made in Sheffield. The dial is 5ft. 6in. in diameter, and will be automatically illuminated at night and in the early hours of the morning. Its prominent position, being within full view of the principal tramway termini, gives it something of the character of a public clock, and accordingly a sort of ceremony took place when it was set going by Miss Fisher, daughter of Messrs. Newton, Chambers and Co.'s manager. Mr. Rippon, who in this case has turned out a fine specimen of horological skill, has made many similar clocks for various parts of the country.

The invitation sent to Mr. A. R. Colquhoun by the Chamber of Commerce shows the prevailing bent of mind among commercial men in Sheffield. The doctrine that trade follows the flag is generally accepted here without question, and if it depended upon public opinion in Sheffield the policy of extending the frontiers of the Empire as opportunity offered would be consistently acted upon. The subject of Mr. Colquhoun's address to the members of the Chamber at the Cutlers' Hall was the commercial aspects of Mashonaland, a subject he was exceptionally qualified to deal with. His testimony, however, as to the extent to which foreign made goods were flooding the markets of South Africa was somewhat disquieting. It is not pleasant to hear that Germany and the United States are competing successfully with Sheffield in that part of our Empire. The importance of the market, however, being now fully established, it is probable that more energetic efforts will presently be put forth to secure our supremacy there.

Inquiries as to the state of trade bring out conflicting answers. In every case one has to read between the lines. There is an evident tendency to put the best possible face on matters. Making all due allowance, however, for this aspect of the case, it is quite clear that during the past year a very fair amount of trade has been done by certain firms in the silver and electro-plate trades in Sheffield. In this the last week in January, the travellers are just going out, so that up to now what trade has been done this year must have been of a spontaneous character. Yet I am assured by Messrs. John Round and Sons that they have started the new year well. It would be idle to deny, however, that most other houses have not been so fortunate. Exceptional circumstances may cause a run of prosperity here and there, but there can be no real general prosperity in the silver industry until the general trade of the country improves. Of this there are at present no signs. For one—and, perhaps, the main—thing, the uncertainty in the coal trade blocks the way. Whatever other causes conduce to returning prosperity, it is quite evident that until this matter is settled, nothing will be established on a firm basis.

Wisconsin Produces a King of the Gems.—Every few years there are more or less well authenticated cases of diamonds being found in out-of-the-way places—far, far away from the recognised diamond-bearing areas. The latest of these is near Oregon, Wisconsin, U.S.A., where a gem as large as a pea is said to have been found recently. Of course there is no reason why this should not be true. A diamond is so hard that it might be re-deposited and dislodged scores of times in the earth's history, and at each time transported thousands of miles.

The Turret Clock Trade in Ireland.—The erection of public clocks in Belfast has of recent years assumed quite a remarkable development, chiefly owing to the practical knowledge and the energy thrown into it by the firm of Sharman D. Neill, Donegall-place. Following the example of his respected grandfather, the late Robert Neill, who commenced business in 1802, and who successfully introduced the manufacture of turret and English clocks in Belfast (having made, among a great many other turret clocks in Ulster, the Linen Hall clock), Mr. Sharman D. Neill has now erected, we understand, over a score of these useful public timekeepers in Belfast and various towns in Ulster, including those of a large number of railway stations.

A Live Association.—The Liverpool Watchmakers' and Jewelers' Association are endeavoring to organise a branch at Prescot, and a meeting is being held for that purpose, at the Preston Hall, as we are going to press. Amongst the speakers are well-known trade unionists, as Councillor Riply, Messrs. W. S. Catkin, J.P., G. Parkin, J.P., J. Bryant, W. A. Newcombe, and others. It is unnecessary to remark that these gentlemen are not of the firebrand type, but well-intending, well-informed men, who realise that the condition of the men is largely to be improved by their better qualification. In view of the encouragement of excellence of work, the association offer a silver medal for the best lever escapement made by anyone under the age of twenty-one years. They also give a grand complimentary concert in the Albert Hall, Cazeneau-street, Liverpool, on the 8th inst.

To the Front Again.—At the dinner given at the St. George's Hall, Liverpool, on New Year's Day, to nearly a thousand old folks, the foregoing association showed what it could do, in the laudable manner everything was carried out. It was a pleasure to see the delight on the faces of the old people as they listened to the kindly words of the Lord Mayor, or received their pound bun-loaf, half-pound of tea, and pound of sugar. There was also a ball afterwards, at which the various branches of the trade were well represented.

Devonport Wants a Good Clock.—Various and many are the complaints made against the silent and erratic clocks of Devonport, and of the need of an absolutely good and reliable timester. The smoulder of discontent might be fanned into the determination of having what is required.

A Diamond in a Turkey's Craw.—As a Liverpool gentleman was preparing for the Christmas festivities, he invested in a Canadian turkey, when to his surprise he found a diamond stud in its craw, and forthwith published his lucky discovery in the *Liverpool Courier.* A gentleman soon came forward, and stated that his friend lost the stud eighteen years ago on the turkey farm, and suggested the probability of it being the long-lost jewel. The editor, however, came down upon him with a "crusher." "A Canadian turkey, aged eighteen years, would be rather tough." It did not occur to him that the stud might have been trampled down, and only picked up the day before the turkeys were killed, or that the stud might even have had sundry alimentary excursions.

The Language of Sealing Wax.—J. F. Craddock and Co., the world-wide known sealing wax manufacturers, have sent us their little calendar, which, like the rest of the firm's productions, is very useful and good. Amongst the prominent items is "the language of sealing wax," in which we notice that the good old red, of which we have used so much, denotes "business." So that if we were to attempt a paraphrase or parody on a well-known Irish good wish, we should say, More power to your red sealing wax.

The Decimal Division of Time.—Our esteemed contemporary the *American Jeweler* recently gave the following :—"It is a curious fact that periodically the mania for computing time on the decimal system breaks out in the horological field. About once in every ten years some horologist discovers that it is the only reliable and sensible method of division, and he immediately proceeds to unbosom his ideas *via* the trade Press. Nearly every large collection of watches contains one or more specimens from artists who suffered from this mania. In the October issue we illustrated one of these freaks of horology, which is to be found in the Marfels collection. The fact that this mania breaks out every ten years is in itself worthy of consideration, since it shows that the disciples of the doctrine are at least consistent, and that there is method in their madness. In the intervals between the breaking out of the decimal disease, one or more advocates of the twenty-four hour system make their appearance upon the horological horizon." There is nothing like a hobby, if it is only universal generalisation.

An Electric Clock.—An electrically driven and controlled clock has just been fixed by Messrs. King, Mendham, and Co., of the Western Electrical Works, in the Bristol branch of the National Provincial Bank of England, Ltd. The regulator is so constructed that at every half-minute the main-spring is wound up, and at the same time the electric current is automatically transmitted to another dial, the hands of which are moved forward by special electro-magnetic mechanism through a span of half a minute, thus synchronising absolutely with the regulator clock. This second dial is 2ft. 6in. in diameter, and is placed some distance off on the further wall. As a matter of fact, any number of receiver dials can be placed in circuit with the regulator clock, all keeping time together. The system of this synchronously working clock is new in this part of the country, and the patents are owned by the Industrial and Mercantile Investment Corporation, Ltd., Westminster, who have appointed Messrs. King, Mendham, and Co. their sole agents for Bristol and district.

Diamond Field Notes.

(By Vaalite.)

Kimberley, Jan. 1st, 1894.

If I were writing for a newspaper I should send them the latest facts concerning the war, but as I know that is not the thing for a trade journal I shall confine myself to the question of diamonds. Naturally the thing of chief interest just now is the De Beers report, which will shortly be out, and which you will receive by wire. We have just passed our Christmas, and it was celebrated here in good old English style, the De Beers prizes amounting to £700, so you see we enjoy ourselves out here. Then we had a great celebration at New Year, when all of us North Britons participated in the festivities.

In passing in review the various mines and ventures it might be observed that there is a Dutch syndicate working Kaffyfontein, Messrs. W. and B. Reed having sold out their interest. The shaft is now down 400ft., and work is being pushed forward. At Klerksdorp the colored diamonds keep turning up in the batteries; another green one was found the other day in a new spot by a Kaffir. In Bechuanaland reports are continually coming in of the discovery of the precious gems: the formation is said to be exactly similar to that of the Colesberg Kopje. One of the diamonds recently found weighed 40 carats.

The New Jagersfontein have declared an interim dividend of 5 per cent., and their output is being maintained both in weight and quality. During December, the New Jagersfontein produced diamonds valued at £27,250, increasing their stock of blue 44,000 loads, which, valued at 1s. 6d., gives £3,300. Deducting £15,750 as expenses gives £14,800 as the net month's profit. The Vaal River Diamond Company has not got a very rosy report for its twenty months, the total debit balance amounting to nearly £10,000. Pumping has greatly reduced the water in the New Gordon, and, if continued, they will soon be able to get at blue, which is known to be payable. Let us hope the rest of the money necessary to unwater this well-known property will be forthcoming. A new scheme of arrangement has been decided upon for the N. E. Bultfontein, and I hope shortly to be able to report to you the usual monthly returns.

The features of interest in this month's diamond news of the greatest importance to the readers of the Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith are those connected with the annual report and balance-sheet of the great De Beers, submitted at their recent meeting. During the twelve months diamonds have been won which have realised £3,239,389, and the total expenditure amounted to £1,695,293, thus leaving the handsome profit of £1,544,096. The stock of blue ground on the floors has been increased by 981,557 loads, which brings up the total to over two and a-half millions of loads.

The cost of hauling having been greatly reduced, the value of the blue is estimated at 3s. 6d. instead of 5s. 2d. The accounts end with June 30th, so that the rises of prices during the last six months do not make themselves felt. At that date they had in hand rather over a half million's worth of diamonds. The total quantity of blue hauled from De Beers Mine was 1,637,031 loads, the greater part being from levels between 700ft. and 800ft.; 92,000 loads coming from a still lower depth. During the year no greater depth has been sunk in the blue, so that the quantity of that material in sight is less than last year. The main shaft, however, has been sunk to the 1,200ft. level. The water pumped from the mine has averaged nearly 6,000gal. per hour. The total output of blue from Kimberley Mine was nearly one and a-half million loads, where the workings on the whole are deeper, and here is in sight blue to the extent of about three and a-quarter million loads. No work has been done at either Bultfontein or Du Toits Pan, both these mines having been shut down—first, to keep down the supply, and secondly because the blue can be more readily and cheaply worked at the other two mines.

During the period between January 1st and June 30th, there were washed at the Premier Mine 1,641,267 loads of yellow and 303,739 loads of calcareous waste, and 92,797 loads of floating reef were removed.

With reference to the working of the mines, it has been found possible to reduce the hours of working from twelve to eight hours, and yet reduce the cost per load.

The Goldsmiths' and Jewelers' Annual Dinner.

The annual dinner of the Goldsmiths' and Jewelers' Annuity and Asylum Institute will be held at the First Avenue Hotel, Holborn, on Wednesday, February 28th, Colonel Howard Vincent in the chair. It is to be sincerely hoped that the gallant Colonel will be well supported, and that the funds of this laudable institution will be much benefited. Of course we cannot always have a Lord Mayor to plead for our charities, and it is therefore all the more necessary that every effort should be made to bring this charity before the notice of everyone connected with the trade, especially in these bad times. The secretary of the institute has realised this, and in sending out tickets for the dinner has enclosed a circular, of which we give the purport:—

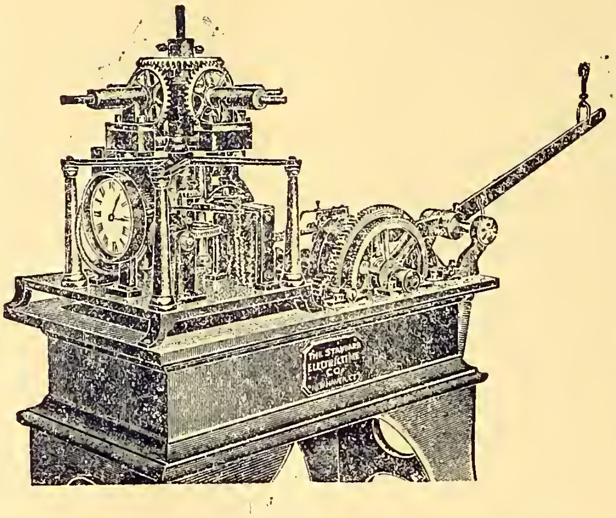
Founded in 1827 for the support of the incapacitated and aged who had been engaged in any branch of the business, the institution has now completed the sixty-sixth year of its existence. During these years the institution has dispensed £34,555 in providing annuities for 392 necessitous men and their widows, of whom eighty have been resident in the Asylum at South Hackney. The annual subscriptions increased from £103 3s. in 1828 to £1,092 3s. 2d. in 1893. The institution has also received £10,291 6s. in life subscriptions and donations, and £2,044 19s. in legacies. Its funded stock now amounts to £10,387 9s. 1d. The amount granted to each annuitant is nominally £15 to men and £10 to women, but these grants are expanded to larger proportions as there is an augmentation of bonus and interest on payments made, which at times doubles the amount of pension; thus, at the present time, one of the men is in receipt of £31 18s. annually, and one of the women of £24 5s. annually. In cases where single women become annuitants they receive the same amount as a man, also widows whose husbands have not received any benefit from the institution. The number of annuitants progressively increased from three in 1828 to eighty-six in 1893, many of whom have enjoyed their pensions and residence in the Asylum at South Hackney for long periods. The present outlay for annuities is at the rate of about £117 per month. It is managed in a strictly economical manner, there being but one paid officer, viz., the secretary. Such statistics abundantly justify the fullest confidence in this admirable institution. The minimum subscription is 5s. per annum, entitling to one vote at each election which may take place during the year, and one vote additional for every 5s. paid. Donors are also entitled to one vote for every 5s. contributed. A life subscription of £2 10s. entitles to one vote at every election during life, and for every £2 10s. one vote additional. Ten guineas constitutes a vice-president, with four votes for life. Any further information will be gladly furnished by J. L. Innocent, Secretary, 86, Rushmore-road, Clapton, E.

Defects in, and omissions from, the present issue are explained by the severe illness of the Editor, who has been confined to his room the best part of the past month, and who relies on the kind indulgence of his readers accordingly.

Things New or Noteworthy

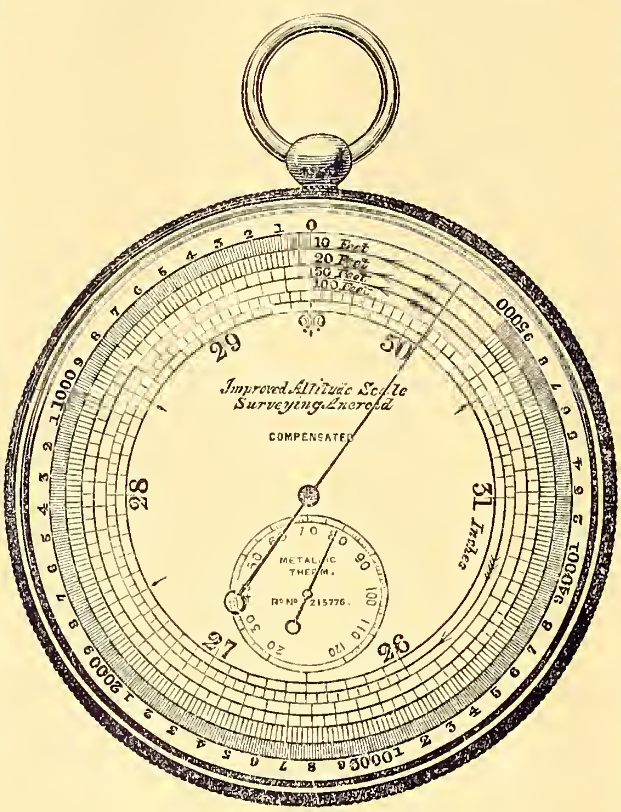
An Electric-striking Turret Clock.

WE are indebted to our excellent contemporary the *Jewelers' Circular* for the following, which we think may be of interest to some of our readers:—The electric motor has been made to perform a great variety of work formerly done by manual labor. Among recent uses is that made by the Standard Electric Time Co., New Haven, Conn., in operating their tower clocks. A motor not only operates the hands, but also the striking apparatus for tolling off the hours of night. The mechanism which has now been brought out by this company is a complete striking tower-clock, a cut of which is shown herewith. Two electric motors are used to operate this clock. The motor used for driving the hands is connected by a gear and worm to an upright shaft, on the top of which is the usual gearing for the dial works. The motor circuit is closed every minute by a pair of magnets connected to a fine self-winding regulator, and after making the required number of revolutions to move the hands through a space of one minute on the dials, breaks its own circuit and there rests until the regulator closes the circuit on the next minute. A larger size motor is used to operate the striking mechanism; its size varies according to the weight of the hammer to be used. In this case the circuit is closed once an hour, and after striking the required number of blows breaks its own circuit, where it rests until the circuit is again closed. Some appreciation of the labor saved by this arrangement may be gained when it is understood that the ordinary tower-clock operating four pairs of 6ft. pointers, and striking the hours on a 1,000 pound bell, requires from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds of weight, that must be wound up every eight days, besides the regulating necessary to keep it correct. One of the most important features of this arrangement is the use of the ordinary open-circuit batteries for operating the motors. The motors are so wound that but a small amount of current is used, and the motors will last from one to two years without renewing the elements, which are only sal ammoniac and zinc; and only ten cells are required for operating the hands of four 6ft. dials. The number used for operating the striking mechanism varies according to the weight of the hammer used. The speed of these motors is very slow, the efficiency high and so arranged that they will always start, even with a dead load. The electric tower clock complete, as shown, will weigh about 400lb. Besides the advantage of weight is the fact that secondary dials may be operated throughout the building from the same regulator. Both the time and striking machinery is very simple, and being operated directly by gears it is not liable to become disarranged in any way.



Improved Mining and Surveying Aneroid with Metallic Thermometer.

MESSRS. F. BARKER AND SON, of 12, Clerkenwell-road, the well-known instrument makers, have recently made and protected (Registered No. 213776) a great improvement in pocket mining and surveying aneroids. The improvements consist in the revolving altitude scale being made extra broad and sub-divided into four separate circles of divisions figured with their respective values, causing the instrument to give a much clearer and distinct reading, as shown in the illustration, being divided to read as close as ten feet. They have also contrived by great ingenuity to combine a small metallic thermometer under the dial of the aneroid, which can be read by the small second dial and short hand (not shown in the block). These instruments are very accurate and durable, and are especially adapted for surveyors and mining engineers, enabling them without calculation to ascertain the depths of mines, heights of mountains, hills, and other altitudes with great accuracy and despatch. These are also made in watch size, suitable for tourists and travellers. All readers should obtain one of the firm's catalogues.



Lancashire Watch Company Festivities.

THE second annual festivities to commemorate the opening of the Lancashire Watch Factory at Prescot, in which over 700 participated commenced on the evening of the 3rd ult., when about 500 of the men and apprentices employed by the firm sat down to a substantial tea in the Assembly Rooms, Derby-street, Prescot. The rooms had been effectively decorated under the superintendence of Mr. T. Hall. After tea a programme of vocal and instrumental music was submitted, the performers including an efficient glee party, organised by Messrs. J. Hurst and W. Beesley; a capital string band under the leadership of Mr. J. Welsby; and an amateur minstrel troupe, formed by Messrs. Hurst and Beesley. On the following evening, about 500 of the women workers and wives of the men were entertained at a similar gathering, and on the 5th ult. a joint assembly took the character of a ball.

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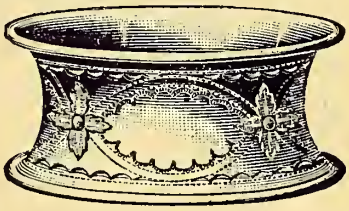

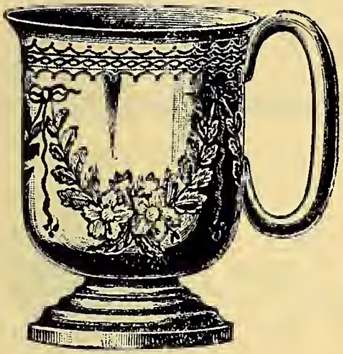

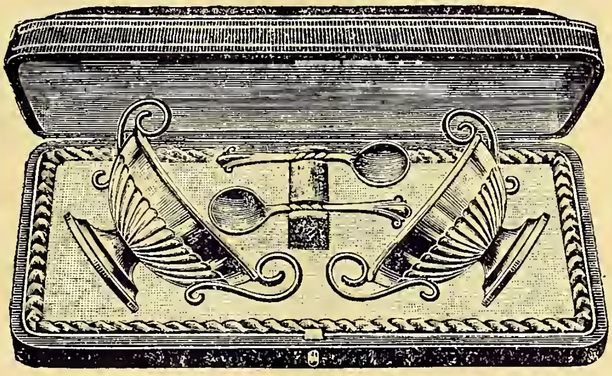

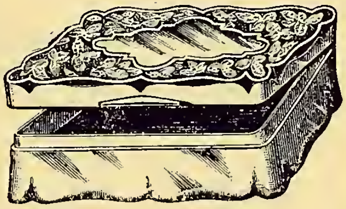

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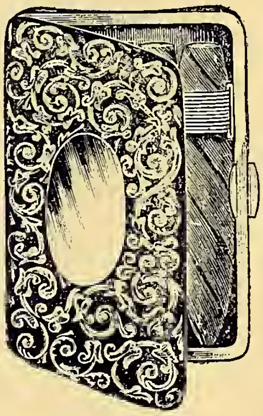
Price Lists to the Trade on application.



Hall Marked Silver Children's Canes.
" " Knife, Fork, and Spoon, in Case.
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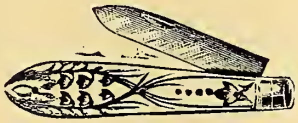
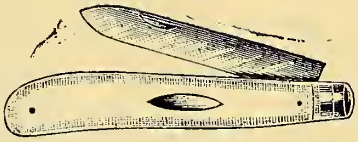
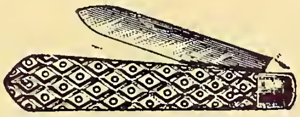
" " Afternoon Tea Spoons, in Case
" " Cigar Cases.
" " Card Cases.
" " Snuff Boxes.
" " Spirit Flasks.
" " Sovereign Purses.

Selections of the above Goods sent on appro.







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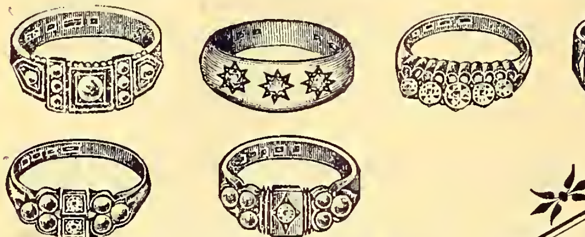

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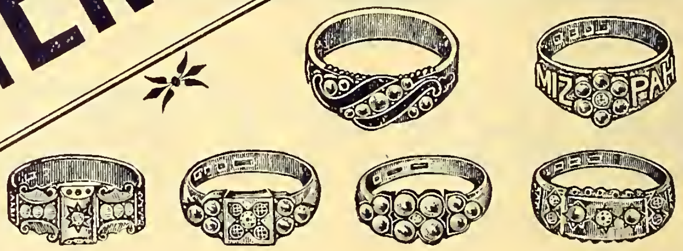

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Transatlantic Jottings.

(By Our New York Correspondent.)

The hands of our trade barometer point to quarters from which it will not be difficult to realise the unfortunate condition in which we find business in the New World. Both the Chicago Jewelers' Association and the New York Jewelers' Board have decided not to hold their banquets, as they feel it would not be right to be feasting and blowing while wages are being so cut, and many workmen are on the point of almost starvation. This is what I venture to regard as pure anti-Anarchy, and it shows the really good feeling which exists in the States between employer and employé, or between capital and labor.

It will be remembered that in August last the Elgin National Watch Company reduced their staff one-half. Recently they have been running only five days a week, and now they have made a further reduction of time and are only running three days a week. It really begins to appear that we have reached the stage of over-production; at one time the sales of this company reached 2,100 watches per day, from which they fell to 1,000 per day. They are not below this now, but the company do not intend to produce many more watches than they can sell as they go, which is doubtless the right policy.

A similar reduction has been made in the working days at Rockford. The company are cutting down where they can, and have recently closed their New York office, although they claim to have maintained as good a portion of their trade during the depression as any of the other factories. I also hear the Waltham has made a 10 per cent. reduction in all wages.

When I turn to Chicago I cannot help thinking of the old English proverb, "After a Lord Mayor's carriage," etc. The city which was talking in tens of millions the other day, and surrounded by all the greatest luxuries it has entered into the heart of man to conceive, is now busily engaged—in fact at its wits' end—in trying to cope with wholesale starvation; the gaols are crammed, every charity strained, and still there is rising up the cry of the starving. The Chicago Jewelers' Association are amongst the prominent distributors of relief, and the charity of the trade is drawing forth unsolicited commendations from the public press all round.

Most of the large factories which shut down for the holidays still remain in that condition. Doubtless advantage will be taken of the usual new year stoppage.

After long delay the Hamilton Watch Company, of Lancaster, Penn., are now able to describe their products, and take orders. The Hamilton watches run 42 hours, on a lighter spring than other watches, and are so constructed that if the spring should break it can be replaced without taking the watch to pieces.

The American Waltham Company have sold their crown-making business to the Crescent Watch Case Company. The latter now have the entire case business.

The Columbus Watch Company has passed into the hands of an official receiver, much to the general surprise. The company started about ten years ago with a capital stock of 275,000dol., and when in full running condition employed about 400 hands, and has had an average output of 600,000dol. Last year its plant was valued at 450,000dol., but it has long been felt that the many obligations maturing could not be met. Numerous meetings have been held to increase capital stock, but ultimately the above course has been resorted to.

Amongst the new ventures, reference might be made to the American Gravity Company, which has been incorporated with the modest capital of 1,000,000dol., for the manufacture of clocks, motors, etc., about which but little appears to be known.

A great cutlery concern is to be located at Rockford, Ill. It has already been organised, and officers chosen, the president being J. W. Meacham, of the Meriden Britannia Company. It hopes to turn out 1,000doz. knives and forks per day.

I hear the Waterbury Watch Company are running full time, and that they are contemplating adding to their plant.

Amongst the prominent manufacturers, the Gorham, the Whiting, the Towle and others have announced a reduction of 15 per cent. on flat ware sold by the ounce.

The Californian Midwinter International Exposition is pushing forward, and spaces have been taken for numerous exhibits connected with the trade, which includes some gorgeous displays to be made by many of the leading firms. The design submitted by the Campbell-Metcalf Silver Company, Providence, R.I., for the first official spoon, has been adopted by the Director-General.

An organisation has been started at Chicago for the reception of exhibits for the Antwerp Exhibition.

In the death of J. D. Yerrington, the American stone trade has lost a well known and highly respected member. In many branches of the trade he had an extensive knowledge, and was appointed on the Commissioners of Awards at the Chicago Exhibition. Unfortunately he was a pure "line-o'-thumb-er," and as soon as he began to open his mouth on the scientific side of the question, his total lack of knowledge of the elements of the various sciences involved became painfully apparent. His warm espousing of the cause of the Montana sapphires is a case in point, and, if I might be allowed to say so, Mr Editor, it has been a cause of great mystery to many on this side, from the greatest expert down to myself, why you did not answer his attacks upon yourself, in connection with the Montana delusion.*

We have recently also lost a great man in the person of Isaac C. Lewis, president of the Meriden Britannia Company. His whole life, and how the colossal concern rose up from the small farm building—operated, like that well-known chay, by one horse—to its present dimensions, is more like a fairy tale than real life.

Amongst our bad failures none can compare with that of S. H. Greenbay, of San Francisco. The creditors, who thought they had some 165,000dol. worth of stock, had to be satisfied with 25,000dol.

As an example of how Americans work together, I should like to instance a case. Recently it was considered desirable to form a trade organisation at Troy, and a meeting of the trade was summoned; and although there was a blinding snowstorm raging, only four jewelers in the whole city were absent.

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*This is a case for the American Press to decide. Mr. Y.'s absurdities were treated as gospel, our appeal to facts as "personal attacks." However, we were content to await the verdict of time upon a matter with which we were so well acquainted, and time, although short, has shown who was in the right!!—Ed.

Tickets and Ticket Writing.

By the Editor.

(*Continued from page* 445.)

Figures.—As figures are all made the same height as capital letters, we will deal with them next. In recent times it has become fashionable to compress figures, so that the rectangle in which they are included is much narrower in proportion than those containing capital letters. We think this has been carried too far, and that the proportions employed below are more artistic and legible. We shall also make the downstrokes rather thicker than usual, indeed we shall make them of the same thickness as those of the capitals; which, in our opinion, is best in many ways. With the exception of the first figure, all the others are included in a rectangle of the same size, which is rather narrower, or slightly more compressed, than that which we have been employing for the capitals. If we divide it similarly into quarters, we shall be able to get all parts of the figures to correspond better with each other. In figures it may be said that mathematical symmetry is sacrificed to optical illusions and effect.

Figures may be divided into two groups, (*a*) right-lined and (*b*) curved. In the former group there are three figures, viz., 1, 4, and 7, the second being only a slight augmentation of the first. The latter is made in two ways, either as a right-line letter or a curved one—we have chosen the latter. The latter group includes the figures 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 0; in five of these the modified serif forms an important constituent, and is made the same in every case when it occurs in the same position. In five of these homologous half curves occur, and in three homologous full length curves. In two, 2 and 5, one rectangular number is modified into a curve. In the figure 8 two of the half curves are united into a down curve; and in the figure 7 both lineal members are modified into curvilineal.

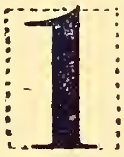
Fig. 52.

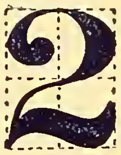
Fig. 53.

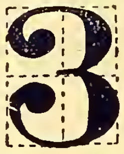
Fig. 54.

The Figure 1.—This figure, in not occupying the whole of the rectangle, forms the only exception of the whole ten, but the use of the latter can well be retained in order to make the character symmetrical, and of the right proportions. First draw in a downstroke of the same thickness as the downstroke of capitals, beginning with the right hand line, commencing so that the line bisecting the rectangle similarly bisects the downstroke. Commence the second stroke of the member about one quarter of the way down the upper left quaternion and continue to the bottom. Now draw in a line from the foot, which should project on either side of the downstroke a distance equal to the width of the latter. Break now the union of the foot and downstroke by a very gentle and small curve on either side. Draw now a top serif line, projecting over towards the left, to the same extent as does the foot at the base, from the top of the left member of the downstroke. Now spring a low concave curve from the top of the right member of the downstroke to the point of the upper serif, which completes the letter. We need scarcely call attention to any of the malformations arising from non-adherence to these rules. But it must be understood that it is absolutely necessary to comply with them all, as upon that rests the making of a good figure.

The Figure 2.—We now enter upon the subject of curved characters, and unless these parts are made of the right proportions, ill-formed figures will necessarily result. Strictly speaking, the top right half curve might be expected to be symmetrical with relation to the top right quaternion, but greater distinctness is obtained by deviating slightly from this, and making it rather larger, as shown in Fig. 53. If symmetry were maintained the curve would end in the exact centre of the rectangle, instead of just below it, and the centre of the curve on the right side would coincide with the centre of the quaternion, instead of which it lies just below it. So with the left member: its periphery, instead of meeting the left quaternion in its centre, does so before reaching that spot. Now this last component is very important, inasmuch as it enters into the composition of half the figures. In the three instances, 2, 3, and 6, where it occurs as an upper member it is in each case made exactly the same in every way, and the same size: its shape and position, and relation to the quaternion, can be seen in Figs. 53, 54, and 57. The diameter of the ball in which this ends should be equal to a downstroke. The thicknesses of the top right curve should all equal the same, at its widest part. So much has been said about making these members bilaterally symmetrical to a horizontal line drawn through the centre or thickest part that it is probably unnecessary to illustrate monstrosities arising from non-adherence to this rule. The last member, then, is a graceful curve from the junction of the median division of the top line to about one-sixth of the way into the bottom half of the rectangle, on the same line. The curve, having met the median line, is continued to the left hand corner—not in a straight line, but in a nicely flowing outward bending curve. The lower member of the figure was originally a straight line—as indeed it is now in some founts—but for the sake of elegance, it is modified into a curve of the same thickness as a downstroke; the form of which can be seen in Fig. 53.

The Figure 3.—This letter is composed of two halves, which are practically alike, but for the sake of optical effect the lower member is made larger than the upper. The upper member differs from that of the figure 2 only in being rather smaller, and instead of ending *below* the median line, ends *above* it. This diminishing of the size naturally makes the bottom member the larger of the two. Great attention must be paid to this, otherwise a top-heavy letter results. Still it must not be overdone, and Fig. 54 illustrates the proportions to secure a well formed letter. As the two constituent members are only a repetition in form of the upper member of the figure 2 already described, further description of the construction of this letter is unnecessary.

(*To be continued.*)

Proposed Conference of Watchmakers and Jewelers at Liverpool.

Efforts are being made at Liverpool for the holding of a conference by members of the Watchmaking and Jewelry trades. In this John Bryant and Alfred E. Newcombe, whose untiring energies are well known in connection with the Liverpool Amalgamated Society of Watchmakers and Jewelers, appear as the moving spirits. The date of the Conference or its place of meeting is not yet settled, nor is it asserted in what way the decisions of the Conference will be enforced. The questions to be discussed are of extreme moment, and we fear it would require something more than the action of such a gathering to make the necessary alterations in our statute-book. They include abolition or retention of the Plate Licence, Government appointment of trade inspectors to carry out the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Act; the hall-marking question; a standard "rate" for silver; certificates to all qualified workmen; the promotion of British trade and commerce; employers' liability; the guarding of the interests of the trade against hawkers, swindlers and unprincipled competitors; the promotion of technical schools for apprentices, together with other important matters not specially tabulated. That upon these points the whole future of the trade depends few would deny, and no one wishes the Conference better speed than ourselves, but it will require a support to give effect to the decisions of the Conference which we fear there is too great a lack of unity in the trade to obtain, unless under very extraordinary circumstances.

WHAT SIR ROBERT BALL THINKS OF UNIVERSAL TIME.

Now that more than usual progress is being made towards the adoption of a universal time standard the opinion lately expressed by so high an authority as Sir Robert Ball, F.R.S., may be well worth reading:—

The familiar question, What o'clock is it? has just now exercised the attention of various civilised Governments to much good purpose. With the extension of intercourse between different countries the maintenance of different time standards presented many inconveniences which, if in some degree inevitable, it was at least desirable to reduce as much as possible. So long as every petty State, no less than every great kingdom, insisted on keeping a time which differed by some irregular number of minutes from the clocks of its neighbors, confusion was unavoidable. It was somewhat disconcerting to a traveller who reached the railway station quite early enough for his train on our time system to discover that the train had left a quarter of an hour previously in consequence of that line being worked by some other time system. It is clearly the minutes that present the practical difficulty. The true principle, now happily finding favor, is to take care of the minutes, and leave the hours to take care of themselves. Every clock in the world should show simultaneously the same number of minutes and seconds, but the hours will not be the same in places considerably different in longitude. At present England, Holland, and Belgium all use Greenwich time exactly. I learn from that excellent publication, the *Observatory*, how great the progress has also been in the standardising of time among other nations. The legal time throughout Germany has recently been defined to be exactly one hour fast on Greenwich time. Only a few weeks ago Italy has adopted the same policy, while, to make the Triple Alliance complete, a Bill has just been brought before the Austrian Government declaring that henceforth it shall be exactly two throughout Austria at the moment when it is exactly one throughout England. Nor is it only in Europe that this acceptance of Greenwich minutes and seconds has been found beneficial. The Australians have decided that the six o'clock dinner bell shall be sounded in their country at the same moment as the nine o'clock breakfast bell is heard in England. The Americans have already adopted the same course by dividing their continent into four strips by lines running north and south. The parts nearest Europe have a time exactly four hours slow on Greenwich. When a correct clock in London shows, let us say, 9hr. 18min. 49sec., a legally correct clock in New York must show 4hr. 18min. 49sec. Each strip of America advancing towards the west has a time one hour slower than the preceding strip, so that it is exactly noon on the Pacific coast when it is exactly 8 p.m. in Western Europe. A remarkable advance has thus been made in a matter of considerable scientific importance as well as of great practical convenience. No doubt the rigorous application of the principle of division adopted in America may occasionally lead to somewhat peculiar difficulties. When the line of division passes through a town, the time on one side of a street may legally differ by an hour from the time on the other side. This may offer a field to an enterprising American humorist. Here we need only remark that critical cases must occur on any time system whatever. Indeed, it will be obvious that a difficulty still more serious than that just referred to must arise some time, if it has not arisen already. For example, the Sandwich Islands are about eleven hours west of Greenwich, so that at 6 p.m. on a Tuesday in London it is 7 a.m. on Tuesday morning at Honolulu, if we reckon to the west. If, however, we reckon round by the east, we find that at 6 p.m. on Tuesday in London it is 8 p.m. on Tuesday at Constantinople, 11 p.m. on Tuesday at Delhi. At the same moment the clock shows 3 a.m. on Wednesday morning at Pekin, and 7 a.m. on Wednesday morning at Honolulu. It thus appears to be either Tuesday or Wednesday at Honolulu according to the way we reckon it. The reasoning shows that when a perfect time system is established over the world there must be a line of division, on one side of which it is Monday, and on the other side of which it is Tuesday. But the adoption of this excellent time arrangement is unhappily not as yet universal. France stands aloof. Ardent Frenchmen do not see why the meridian of Greenwich rather than the meridian of Paris should be taken as the standard which all the world is bidden to follow. Of course, it is admitted that there is absolutely no intrinsic virtue in one meridian rather than in another. Some time ago an enthusiastic Italian suggested that the meridian of Jerusalem ought to be chosen, because it would command universal respect, and offend no national susceptibilities. This sentimental view did not lead to anything practical. If we are to have a universal standard meridian, the facts of the world require that it must be the meridian of Greenwich.

Free Technical Education in Birmingham.

THE art classes in connection with the Jewelers' and Silversmiths' Association commenced on the 3rd ult. in the New Schools, Victoria-street, Birmingham. They are open to adult male and female students, apprentices, and young people employed in the various related trades of the district. The employers who are members of the Association pay one half of the fees of the students, and the Association the remaining half, so that the classes are free to the attending scholars under age. Adult scholars pay their own fees. The fee for the ensuing (winter) term is two shillings. Drawing boards are provided, the only expense to the pupils consisting of drawing materials and paper. We are also pleased to notice that special arrangements have been made for the instruction of lady students, under the direction of Miss Awdry (from the Central School of Arts), and every convenience provided for their separate study. The payment, or otherwise, of fees in this class is optional.

The Technical School was also re-opened on the same date. A limited number of students are required to attend the Technical School *only*, to whom special attention will be given, with a view to their qualifying for the examination of the City and Guilds of London Institute. Successful candidates will receive the certificate or medal of the Institute, according to the grade and position in which they pass. All students will be required to have a good knowledge of drawing, and preference will be given to such as have "passed" in geometry, second grade, and either model or freehand. No applicant can be admitted to the Technical School who is not practically engaged in the Jewelers' or Silversmiths' trade, or a branch thereof, and preference will be given to such as are well grounded in at least one kind of work, and whose intention it is to complete a course of instruction under the direction of the chief master. Applications for admission to be made to Mr. Wigley, at the school, between seven and eight o'clock, who will explain the conditions of entrance. The results of the Silversmiths' class, started last term, were most satisfactory, and the instructions in this branch will be continued, and students prepared for the City and Guilds' Examinations in Silversmiths' work, on the basis of the syllabus of that Institute. At these classes advanced instruction for adults will be given at a fee of 10s. 6d. per term, or 15s. the session. The practical subjects comprise—Mounting, Setting, Enamelling, Chasing, and Repoussé, Engraving, and all details relating thereto. A course of lectures will also be given during the session, explanatory of the above, and embracing subjects outside practical work. Hours of attendance will be from seven till nine p.m., for five evenings in the week during the term. Students will be admitted on presentation of a card, provided by the Association, and signed by their employer, which may be obtained of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. P. H. Levi, Newhall-street, or at the school, on any evening between the 1st and 5th of January. Employers (being members of the Association) will also be provided with admission cards for their employés.

Workers in Precious Metals.

MR. W. A. STEWARD, a name perhaps first brought to many of our readers by our supplement sheets, lectured on the 12th ult. on the above subject at the South-place Institute. The lecture was well attended, as the lecturer is well known from the interest he takes in all matters connected with technical education. The lecture, we believe, will subsequently be published. He commenced by referring to the wide area over which gold, like iron, was found, its ductility and other physical properties, its alloys and combinations; also to silver and its variety of combinations with the precious yellow metal, reference being also made to the wide distribution of gold in nature. In tracing the history of the working of precious metals the lecturer pointed out that the beginning of the working of the precious metals extended backward beyond the knowledge of man. According to Sir John Lubbock, the only metal with which the people of the Stone Age were acquainted was gold. In the relics of the Bronze Age it was found inserted, while to show the antiquity of engraving bronze razor blades of this period were sometimes found thus treated. But if we wished to trace the history of the working in civilised countries we should naturally turn to that weird land with its unfathomable history which we call Egypt. There were some specimens to be seen in our museums—the golden ornaments of Queen Ah Hotep, which were well known; the monolithic columns which we call obelisks were decorated on the base with sheets of embossed gold, while the cartouches of early rulers had been found by Captain Burton in the disused workings, all of which show that gold was sought for and pretty extensively used. But the country and race to which we most naturally look is Greece; here we could not trace the beginnings of the working of the craft or certainly when Homer lived, but he mentioned golden doors and ornaments; his famous golden shield of Achilles was well known. Then we had the remains found by Dr. Schliemann at Mycenæ and the find at Salmanis, as reported in the WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER, while the beautiful specimens of Etruscan work extant showed the care and delicacy of the early workmen. Gold was used to decorate the temples of the Greeks and Romans. In the Parthenon could still be seen the holes for fixing the golden shields, the votive offering of Alexander. In this temple stood the beautiful Athene, a chryselephantine statue by Phidias, with its "soft, creamy beauty of ivory flesh" and its golden decorations. He next spoke of the decay and ascendency of the Byzantine; of the excellence of fifth-century Saxon work; of the fine specimens produced by the Irish in the tenth century, outrivalling the world; the building of Westminster Abbey; the building of workshops for, and employment of, goldsmiths in the Abbey; tracing the history of the craft through its decline, with the attempt at reviving it in the reign of Queen Anne, up to the present day; pointing out how the lack of opportunity was spoiling good men, the division of industry tending to make the workmen more like machines than artists (referring to the important fact that the great pillars of the Renaissance were goldsmiths first, and painters, sculptors, and architects afterwards); and stating that no inducement was offered in order to attract the artistically inclined. Cheap and nasty was too often the ruling spirit, and as a consequence base counters were offered and accepted by the public, the genuine coins of the Realm of Art being unheeded. He further strongly advocated the urgent necessity for a genuine system of education of a technical character, to be supplementary to, not a substitute for, the workshop; pointing out the immense good accruing upon the Continent by the establishment of such beneficent institutions; yet we had only two in the kingdom, —one at Birmingham, doing useful work; the one in London so far away that after working nine or ten hours the young men and lads could not be induced to spend another four going to New Cross and back, by the offer of free travelling and a supper thrown in—the New Cross Institute being a positive failure so far as the trade was concerned. Mr. Stapleton was doing excellent work at the Polytechnic, but he was hardly recognised, receiving hardly any encouragement for his labors. The public and the craftsman needed educating. The workshop needed better conditions, and the public must demand artistic work if the craft was to raise itself and be an ornament to British manufacture.

New Automatic Starter and Time-Recorder.

IT is well known that the love of racing at the Antipodes is proverbial. A little while ago the following description of a new automatic starter and time-recorder was given in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, which has so many features that we feel justified in reproducing it: An automatic starter and time-recorder for use in connection with horse-racing, trotting, pedestrianism and bicycling, has recently been patented by Mr. Alfred Bartlett, and is on view at the office of the Rosehill Racing Club. The mechanism is enclosed in a cylindrical case, on the top of which is fixed a horizontal dial, which is divided into 60 seconds, and each second is subdivided into fifths, while a smaller dial registers the minutes. An outer circle has a number of stops numbered from one to 60, and is brought into use in starting for events in which the time system of handicapping is required. In connection with the "clocking" machine is an electric battery with bell attachment, which is fixed at the starting-point, while the time-recorder is placed at the winning-post. The mechanism for starting time-handicapped events is brought into operation by pressing down the buttons on the outer rim of the dial, in accordance with the time adjustments fixed for the starters, and, starting from zero, the times at which the other horses handicapped in the race leave the mark are accentuated by a bell, so that no mistake can occur in despatching the field just as the handicapper had arranged. With regard to the starting, placing and timing in pedestrian contests the machine appears at its best. The difficulty of deciding close finishes in foot-racing has always been acknowledged, for the unaided eye cannot be regarded as infallible when only a few inches separate the runners. This has been provided for in the invention under notice. The seconds hand, which registers the time on the large dial, is carried on a cylinder about 3in. in diameter and of a similar depth. The outer surface of the cylinder is vertically divided in twelve parts, corresponding with which, on the inner surface of the cavity in which it revolves, are a dozen inked points. The circumference of the cylinder is divided into seconds and fifths, and the aforementioned inked points are electrically connected with the tapes at the winning end of the running tracks. The signal for starting is given by a loud-sounding electric bell at the starting-post, and simultaneously the recording machine at the other end is brought into operation. The tapes at the winning end of the tracks are electrically connected with the inked points, and the instant that the connection is broken the inked point registers on the corresponding section of the revolving cylinder the time occupied in covering the ground, as well as the relative position of each competitor as he breasts the tape. The apparatus will be shortly on view at Messrs. Grimshaw and Baxter's, Goswell-road, London.

An Adams Medal.—The Library Committee have decided upon the design of G. G. Adams, F.S.A., for the medal to commemorate the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of York. This is the fourth medal that Mr. Adams has had the honor of executing for the Corporation, the others being in commemoration of opening Blackfriars-bridge and Holborn Viaduct by her Majesty the Queen, the visit of the King of the Hellenes, and the presentation of the freedom of the City to H.R.H. the late Prince Albert Victor. Mr. Adams was articled to Mr. W. Wyon, R.A., at the Royal Mint, and for two years was his chief assistant. Subsequently he studied under the famous Pistrucci. In addition to having enjoyed a long reputation in this branch of art, he has gained considerable note as a sculptor.

In and Out of the Courts.

"Relatives are best Apart."

That "disputes will occur even in the best regulated families" was evidenced the other day when Samuel Emanuel entered an action against his brother, the well-known Portsea jeweler and Mayor of Portsmouth, for wrongful dismissal. It appears the former had been for many years in South Africa, and on his return to England in the spring of 1893 defendant wrote to him suggesting that he should come to him on the following terms:—First year, £2 10s. per week; second year, £3 per week; third year, £3 10s. per week; fourth year, £4 per week; and 5 per cent. commission. Plaintiff accepted this offer, but suggested he should draw £3 a week the first year, the extra 10s. to be deducted when commissions were paid. A day or two later defendant wrote him that he thought it would be a mistake for one brother to be in the service of another brother; but a few days later, at a meeting between the brothers, the old terms were agreed to, and plaintiff began to perform his duties. At the end of a week, however, defendant told plaintiff he could not keep him as he must take back another brother who had formerly held the post. The effects of the cross-examination and deposition of witnesses was to show that plaintiff was "on trial" for a week, and a verdict was accordingly found for the jeweler Mayor.

Robbery from the Civil Service Supply Association.

William Markham had been twenty years in the service of that organisation which flourishes under the above title, and had been considered to be a most trustworthy servant, as no doubt be originally was. But it was more than suspected that he had latterly fallen a victim to the demon drink, and was accordingly cited to appear before the Board. But as a guilty conscience needs no accuser, Markham thought that some of his actions, which were even of a worse character than drink, had been found out, and accordingly absconded, and having addressed a letter to the coroner was meditating upon an easy passage to the land of the unknown when he was arrested upon eleven charges of stealing jewelry. It was stated that the prisoner had been in the habit of stealing and pawning stock and making up "dummy" parcels in its stead to avoid detection at stocktaking. At the Sessions he pleaded guilty, and in consideration of previous good character he was let off with twelve months' hard labor.

Splendid Arrangement! But it did not Act.

In November last a visit was made by E. Thomas, a clerk, to the establishment of T. G. Hall, which has long flourished under the name of Leroy Fils, in Regent-street and Bond-street. Thomas asked to see some watches similar to one bought by Major Bullen, and ultimately selected a watch to the value of £25, and a half-hoop diamond ring at forty guineas. For these he tendered a cheque on the London and County Bank, and was allowed to take away the ring and gave instructions for the watch to be sent on the following Thursday to 10, Clifton-hill. It is not at all surprising to find that the cheque was returned marked "no effects," but what is surprising was that on the Thursday morning a district messenger put in an appearance with a note asking for the watch to be sent by bearer. A "dummy" parcel was then made up, and delivered to the modern Mercury, who was followed by a detective, and also by the man of watches and gems. Near the office of the messenger in Piccadilly the latter saw the original customer and lost no time in handing him over to the officer of the law. During the time he was in custody a very clever ruse was attempted, a letter being received by the solicitor stating that the man in custody was not the man who obtained the diamond ring, but that it had been obtained by the writer, who had pawned it at Attenborough's. The ring was accordingly found there. Witnesses were called to testify that prisoner was elsewhere at the time of the robbery, but the pawnbroker's assistant picked him out from others as the man who pawned the ring; and an "expert" was called to show that the writing upon the cheque, the letter, and other things were the same. Subsequently he was recognised as an old gaol-bird, and he was sentenced to three years' penal servitude.

Window Smashing and Robbery.

About five o'clock on a December afternoon W. Dodd, a jeweler of Mare-street, Hackney, heard a crash, and rushing outside his shop found one of his windows broken and a tray of rings gone. Some of the latter were upon the pavement, but some twenty jewels had disappeared. Fortunately the alarm raised resulted in the arrest of James Thompson, thirty, a bricklayer, and James Woodcraft, twenty, a bricklayer. Some of the property was found upon them, and they were each sentenced to nine months' hard labor.

Fourteen Convictions since 1879.

At the last Carnarvon Sessions Owen Jones, a thirty-five year old watchmaker, was sentenced to nine months' hard labor for converting to his own use a watch entrusted to him for repair. For the greater part of his life this disgrace to humanity had been clever enough to find people sufficiently foolish to entrust their valuables to him, and during the last fourteen years has had a corresponding number of sentences passed upon him.

A Ticket-o'-Leave Burglar.

At the last Cork Assizes, John Daly, who burglarised Andrew Coninham's jewelry store at Mallow and successfully "stowed a swag" of some £200 worth of jewelry, was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. Most of the property has been since recovered.

Caught Selling his Plunder.

In December last the shop of R. Fielden, jeweler, Dunfermline, was burglarised and some £500 worth of stock stolen. Suspicion having fallen upon Andrew Welsh, a dyer, he was watched, and caught in the act of trying to dispose of some of the plunder. At the court he pleaded guilty and the sheriff considered that as the prisoner was only nineteen years of age and all the property had been recovered, the demands of justice would be met by five months' imprisonment.

Robbery by an Employe.

Ellerington Telford, a watchmaker, lately in the employment of Charles Sciffert, Dumfries, pleaded guilty in the police-court, on the 6th ult., to having stolen ten gold rings, a gold appendage for a watch chain, twelve silver teaspoons, and one pair sugar silver tongs, the property of his employer, and was sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment. The pawnbrokers with whom the articles were pledged were ordered to share the loss equally with Mr. Sciffert.

Successful Burglary at Shepherd's Bush.

A daring and unfortunately successful burglary was perpertrated on the night of the 10th ult., at the lock-up shop of Mr. Shaw, jeweler, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, when the greater part of his entire stock was carried off. Nothing was known or heard of the burglary until Mr. Shaw arrived the next morning, when he found the fastenings of the door had been wrenched, and the safe opened in a manner to suggest the operations of a skilful crook.

A Magnificent Discovery.

The police have recently made a raid upon a house in Peter-street, Hackney, rented by a man now in custody in connection with the burglaries at Lady Bickersteth's and elsewhere, and have discovered large quantities of jewelry, gems, etc., for some of which owners are wanted, together with large quantities of burglarising paraphernalia. The whole of the property was removed to King's Cross police station, where it can be seen by anyone who has been a victim to the knight of the jemmy.

Light Sentences on a Youthful Gang of Burglars.

During the month of December quite a number of successful burglaries were perpetrated in various parts of Sheffield. In one case an entry was effected through the office window of J. G. Graves, jeweler, Surrey House, Arundel-street, and sixty-two gold and silver watches and numerous other things carried off. Subsequently John Kerr, twenty, was stopped while trying to pawn some of the proceeds of the robbery, and given into custody. Two others, Arthur Smithson and Thomas Smithson, were also apprehended and all charged. Kerr and Arthur Smithson pleaded guilty to several of the burglaries, and Thomas Smithson to having received and dealt in the stolen property. For all these serious offences they were let off with the following light sentences: Kerr, six months' hard labor, and the two Smithsons seven days' imprisonment each! Many a lad for a tenth of this has been sent for five years to a reformatory!

A Christmas Day Burglary.

James Mool, a Dublin van-driver, is a man with no respect for Christmas Day, and accordingly upon that great festival, instead of feasting upon goose, was goose enough to turn burglar, and break into the premises of D. Moulang, 31, Wellington Quay, and steal jewelry to the value of £25; and although he got clean away with the property save a cut or two on the hand from the glass of the fanlight by which he entered, some of the property was traced to him. He was committed for trial.

Burglaries at Hull.

AS the old year was closing, the premises of Magner Bros., Mytongate-street, Hull, were successfully entered, and a large quantity of valuables carried off. The door-lock, it is supposed, was forced with a skeleton key, but from the confusion in which things were left it is believed that the thieves were disturbed.

A Juvenile Thief.

WALTER SAGAR, a watchmaker, of Palm-street, Blackburn, recently admitted into his house J. W Peddington, a lad of some ten summers, and during his temporary sojourn the light-fingered young rascal appropriated a watch and chain to the value of £4 15s. Of this he subsequently tried to dispose to another watchmaker, by whom he was handed over to the police. The magistrate had recourse to the birch, of which wholesome corrective the prisoner received six strokes.

Confederate Thieves at Work.

TOO great attention cannot be called to the method adopted by confederate thieves in shops where only one attendant is in possession. Two men, either English or American, have recently been sucessful in several cases in Nice. One goes in and asks to look at goods, and when so engaged with the goods before him, number two comes just inside and asks a question relative to something in the window, and so diverts the attention of the salesman, or saleswoman, which allows number one to make off with the swag.

Loss of 150 Wedding Rings.

THE confederate trick was successfully worked upon August Wernet, Commercial-street, Newport, in November last, by a man and woman who professed to require a number of articles, and even selected some to be sent to a butcher in the town. The woman having got rid of the assistant, decoyed August Wernet outside, and in the meantime someone entered and stole the 150 nuptial bands. Some evidence has leaked out—which the prisoners regard as the outcome of a grudge of someone who has rounded on them—which has resulted in the apprehension in London of Henry Price, nineteen, a tipster, and his wife, who have been committed for trial.

He Would Not Support his Wife.

FREDERICK MARSHAM is a jeweler who thinks he can defy the law; but he has now received a month's imprisonment, during which time, let us hope, he will realise his folly. At his trial it was stated that the prisoner had been committed to gaol at Bow County-court for disobedience to an order under an agreement he entered into to pay his wife 7s. weekly. As to the agreement, prisoner said he signed it under compulsion—he was fastened in a room by some relatives, and told he should not come out until he had signed.

Another Lock-up Burglary.

H. HODGSON, a jeweler, of George-street, Aberdeen, apparently has too good an opinion of his fellow man, and accordingly rests in security at home while his lock-up shop is only separated from the one next door by a wooden partition. He was quite surprised the other morning to find that the nocturnal fiend had paid him a visit, and with stock and bits had bored through the thin partition, and relieved him of sundry gold and silver watches and other valuables without leaving a trace of his identity behind.

Daring Burglary in Nottingham.

IN the small hours of the morning of the 17th ult. the premises of J. Smith and Son, jewelers, Key-street, Nottingham, were burglarised and a large quantity of plunder, amounting to several hundred pounds, carried off. Owing to the alterations for street improvements the premises are somewhat isolated. The thieves carried a safe weighing 1½ cwt. down the narrow kitchen stairs, where they smashed it open, and subsequently got clean away.

They did not Believe the Watchmaker's Oath.

W. T. RISING, a watchmaker, of High-street, Hampstead, received from a customer a carriage clock for repairs and when done sent it home, but not having remedied the little evils of the timester it was again returned to him. A week after, the lady called, and was told that the clock had been sent to No. 12, Willoughby-road, whereupon the lady remarked that she did not live at No 12 but No. 2. But the horologer explained that whatever the number was both his man and lad knew the house, and that the clock had been taken to the same house on both occasions; that on the last occasion it was sent home on December 12th, as shown by his diary, and he had not had it since in his possession, as he was prepared to swear. This evidence was corroborated by his man and boy, yet the Bench made an order for the delivery of the clock or payment of its value, £10!

Daylight Robbery.

ON the afternoon of the 20th a man entered the shop of Mr. Tumbleton, Ashton Old-road, Manchester, and proceeded to remove a case of jewelry. Mrs. Tumbleton, having seen him, summoned the assistance of her husband, but no sooner did he come forward than a second man rushed in and tried to liberate number one; but assistance having been obtained from a passing neighbor both the would-be thieves were given into custody, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

Penal Servitude next Time.

RECENTLY Henry Taylor, 44, a watchmaker, of respectable appearance, was charged at Bolton with having fraudulently converted three watches left with him for repair to his own use. It appears the prisoner had been ill for nine weeks and was in great distress, during which time he had pawned the watches. He was proceeding to his "uncle" to liberate one of the watches, when he was arrested. As he had done the same thing before, for which he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, he was awarded nine months' this time, and a promise that if he did it again penal servitude awaited him.

More Window Smashing.

WE are by no means alarmists, but we cannot help feeling that something really ought to be done to deter idle vagabonds from venting their wrath on jewelers' windows. Recently William Govelle, a rascal with anarchy on the brain, smashed one of the windows of Messrs. Spink, jewelers, Piccadilly, and gloried in the damage he had done, for which he was sentenced to six months' hard labor.

Another case of even a worse nature occured at Portsmouth, where no less than three of the windows of the Mayor were smashed by a vagabond who only three weeks before had tried to commit suicide. When apprehended, the prisoner said he meant to break every window! What ought to be done with such a fellow?

The London Society of Goldsmiths and Jewelers.

THIS society, which came into existence last year, appears to be going on in a very prosperous manner. Its ranks are swelling, and its popularity increasing. We have perused the rules of the society, and have concluded that if they are adhered to nothing but good can result. Its meetings are held at the "Pindar of Wakefield" Inn, Gray's Inn-road, W.C., and Mr. S. Lowen, the secretary, is never tired of giving information to any inquirer, at 3, Richmond-street, Thornhill-square, N., which is the registered office of the society. The objects are set forth to be: The maintenance of trade customs and privileges, and the general welfare of the members; to amicably arrange differences and regulate the relations between employers and employés; to grant assistance to unemployed members; the payment of a sum of money upon the death of a member; and to prevent, as far as possible, any undue increase of apprentices. Of course, with such expressed objects as these, it is obvious that the society might be of questionable good or a power of harm; when one, however, reads through the rules, and watches how the thing is developing, one is inclined to regard it as something better than either of these, and we are pleased to find that it is receiving good support both from employers and employés. The other evening they gave their first grand concert, at the Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, in aid of a benevolent fund. They had an inviting programme of talent, a full and appreciative house, and, what is still more to the point, a good sum wherewith to start their laudable fund. Moreover, they enrolled a number of new members that night.

Just Like Those Welshmen.—Of all the wedding gifts to the Duke and Duchess of York (the Prince and Princess of Wales of the future) probably nothing is so imposing as the magnificent present from gallant little Wales which has recently been made. It is all Welsh except the work; the subjects, the conception, the very gold and silver being obtained from the mines of the Principality. It consists of a huge jardinière of elegant conception, in which there are four panels representing Welsh castles. This stands upon a charming plateau with elevated centre, with projecting ends for the reception of beautiful equestrian figures. The border of the plateau draws its inspiration from the rose of York and rose leaves. The centre is enriched by beautiful panels, illustrating scenes from Welsh history, separated by portraits. At the corners sit superbly modelled figures, the Welsh bard forming a very suitable subject for the purpose. There is a large quantity of 18-carat gold employed in its construction, and the enamelling puts on a very rich finish to the 3,000oz. of metal employed. The total length is 5ft. 6in., the height 2ft. 6in., and the width 3ft. It was manufactured by Elkington and Co., London and Birmingham.

OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

BLYTH, Henry John, *Watchmaker*, Yarmouth. An application was made at the Yarmouth Bankruptcy Court, before his Honor Judge Eardley Wilmot, for the discharge of the above debtor. The Official Receiver reported that the debtor commenced business in Yarmouth in 1881 without capital, and his trade all through had been a very small one, which soon caused him to get into debt. He had only kept one book of account, which contained entries of repairs done for his customers. The debtor has also acted as tax collector, but owing to a long illness he lost the appointment, besides which his business fell away, and he got further into debt. The creditors have been paid a dividend of 5s. 5½d. in the £.

BUCKNELL, Harry Geen, *Jeweler*, Market-place, Chippenham. The liabilities of this debtor amount to £954; the assets are estimated to produce £96. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Lawrence, Henry	London	10	17	3
Wattis	,,	19	19	5
Bucknell, Robert	,,	45	0	0
Platnauer Bros.	Bristol	50	0	0
Braham	Birmingham	28	17	2
Lyde, W. H.	,,	12	10	6
Gale	Calne	19	4	9
Olborne, Henry	Chippenham	17	0	0
Braren, James	,,	53	3	0
Brinkworth, Miss	Corsham	25	0	0
Weatherhill, T.	Dunstable	20	0	0
Willis, Frederick	Exeter	112	0	0
Stratton, A.	Melksham	20	0	0
Pritchard	Paris	14	3	6
Bankers' Claims		50	0	0

COHEN, Samuel L., *Jeweler*, 9, Pimlico-walk, Hoxton. The unsecured debts in this case amount to £168, the estimated assets showing a deficiency of only £20. The public examination will be held in Carey-street, on February 7th, at 11.30. Amongst the creditors we notice :—

		£	s.	d.
Bowman, Limited	London	61	12	6
Robinson and Chapman	,,	32	0	0
Reis and Co.	,,	30	0	0
Koch and Co.	,,	10	0	10
Pierre, F. C., and Co.	Paris	24	17	11

FUCHTER, Fidel, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 15, Stone-street, Maidstone. In this small failure the public examination was held on January 18th at the Sessions House, Maidstone. Replying to the Official Receiver, debtor said he had carried on business at the same house in Stone-street since the year 1868. His wife had also kept since 1880 a registry office for servants, and was the agent for dye works But for the pecuniary assistance he received from his wife he would have been compelled to give up long ago. He had been struggling for many years, but he did not stop before, because he kept hoping that he would have better years. Only five pounds' worth of furniture in his house belonged to himself. The other was bought by his wife out of her own earnings. His insolvency commenced as far back as 1880. In that year someone stole watches from his shop of the value of £50. Several of them belonged to customers, and he had to make good the loss. In the following year he was seriously ill with inflammation of the lungs, and after that his business continued to go down. He had a family of seven children. He kept no books, and was consequently unable to prepare a deficiency account. The bankrupt was allowed to pass.

FURTWANGLER, Francis Adolph, *Jeweler*, 24, Green-street, Neath. The first meeting of creditors was held on January 12th. From debtor's statement of affairs it seems that the gross liabilities amount to £736 19s. 3d., of which £717 13s. 3d. is expected to rank. The assets amount to £233 4s. 6d., leaving a deficiency of £503 14s. 6d. The debtor said that he commenced business on his own account about five years ago. Previous to that time he was in business with a Mr. W. Grieshaber, trading as Grieshaber and Co. In July, 1889, the partnership was dissolved, the debtor taking over the business and agreeing to pay his late partner £1,050, and the liabilities of the firm amounted to £609. In May, 1892, debtor filed his petition, his liabilities then being about £2,100. A composition of 9s. in the £, payable by bills at four, eight, twelve, fifteen, and eighteen months, was carried, but part of the fifteen and eighteen months' bills have not been met, and are now scheduled in his statement of affairs as contingent liabilities. Debtor alleges that the causes of his insolvency were "bad trade, pressure by creditors, and legal expenses." The public examination will be held on February 6th, at the Town Hall, Neath.

FISH, Henry Alfred, *Jeweler's Assistant*, 23, Sydney-road, Stoke Newington. The receiving order was made on December 22nd, and the public examination will take place to-day in Carey-street. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Milliken and Co.	London	60	0	0
Barley, A. C.	,,	63	0	0

HUMMEL, Sigmund, *Jeweler*, 13, West Bar, Sheffield. Particulars in this case were given last month. We now append a list of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Little, James	London	10	0	0
Ruff, G. H.	,,	10	9	3
Brooke, Brooke, and Co.	Birmingham	122	0	0
Sydenham Bros.	,,	41	0	0
Silverstone, Isaac, and Co.	,,	10	0	0
Preferential Creditor.				
Basset		24	0	0

LARRARD, F. (Frodsham, G. E., and Co , formerly trading as), *Jeweler and Watch and Chronometer Maker*, Gracechurch-street, London, E.C. An application was made at the London Bankruptcy Court on the 19th ult., for the discharge of the above debtor, before Mr. Registrar Broughan. Mr. F. Cooper Willis appeared in support of the application, and there was no opposition on the part of creditors. The Official Receiver reported that the receiving order was made in August last year, and the summary of accounts filed by the debtor showed liabilities amounting to £870 2s. 3d., and assets nil. The debtor in 1886 turned his business into a joint stock company, of which he became managing director at a salary of £300 per annum. The company went into liquidation in August last, and the debtor was appointed liquidator. The debtor alleged his failure to have been caused through judgment having been obtained against him by the petitioning creditor or for money lent. His Honor, after reviewing the case at some length, granted the discharge, subject to the debtor consenting to judgment being entered against him for £100.

LORD, Samuel, *Jeweler*, 5, Curzon-street, and 1, Croft-street, Burnley, Lancashire, was adjudicated a bankrupt on January 12th.

MEDLAND, John B., *Optician*, Borough, London, S.E. An application was made by the above debtor for his discharge at the London Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar Brougham, on the 12th ult. The Official Receiver reported that the debtor filed his petition in September last year, and the statement of affairs showed liabilities amounting to £399. The assets have realised £283, and a first and final dividend of 9s. 10d. in the £ was about to be declared. The debtor alleged his failure to have been caused through his inability to realise his stock-in-trade, and to depreciation in its value. He only became aware of his insolvent position a short time before the date of the receiving order, and he at once placed himself in the hands of his creditors. His Honor, after reviewing the case, granted an immediate discharge, subject to judgment being entered against the debtor for £5, as that sum would enable the Official Receiver to pay the creditors a dividend of 10s. in the £.

MILLS, William Henry, *Jeweler*, 25, Rosser-street, and 2, Old Market-street, Neath, has been adjudicated; and the first meeting has been held. The public examination is fixed for February 6th, at 11.30, at the Town Hall, Neath.

MILLS and TROW (Mills, Edwin Joseph, and Trow, William Frank, trading as), *Silversmiths*, 53, Northampton-street, Birmingham. In the Birmingham Court of Bankruptcy, on January 12th, upon the application of the solicitors for the petitioning creditors, Registrar Parry made a receiving order constituting Mr. Luke Jesson Sharp the official receiver of this estate.

NIEMEYER, Charles, *Jeweler*, 15, Salford-street, Blackburn, came up for his adjourned examination at the Blackburn Bankruptcy Court on January 12th. In answer to the Official Receiver, the debtor admitted that he had not mentioned having pledged goods with Mr. Green, of Blackburn. He had pawned one or two watches at the beginning of last year, but did not know what he received or what was the value of the goods. The tickets were burned, as they were run out of date. The Official Receiver: Do you remember destroying them? Debtor: Yes. The Official Receiver: Now. I warn you. If you think you can take me off this point you are welcome to try, but you will lose. Debtor: I remember destroying one or two tickets, but I cannot say if they were of goods pledged with Mr. Green. In answer to further questions the debtor said the goods pledged were not worth redeeming except in one instance. The Official Receiver said he should require an account of goods pledged, or else he would oppose the closing of the examination. The case was further adjourned.

TAYLOR, GEORGE JOHNSON, *Electro-plate Manufacturer*, late of MANCHESTER and BIRMINGHAM, was adjudicated a bankrupt on January 4th. The liabilities are stated at £387, and the assets *nil*. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Wilkinson and Sons	Birmingham	47	13	9
Siradi Metal Co.	,,	45	19	3
Westwood, F.	,,	37	11	6
Jenkins and Sons	,,	26	2	10
Cruickshanks, G.	,,	22	9	9
Cawfield	,,	17	4	0
Taylor and Sons	,,	16	13	1
Smith, Hy.	,,	16	7	0
Dunkley, R.	,,	12	10	0
Kenrick and Jefferson	,,	10	1	2
Reynolds and Westwood	,,	13	0	0
Wood and Co.	Burslem	10	11	6
FULLY SECURED CREDITOR.				
Taylor, Ernest S.	Handsworth	35	0	0

DEEDS OF ASSIGNMENT.

CUMMINGS, GEORGE BULMER, *Jeweler*, 47, LINTHORPE-ROAD, and 66, PRINCE'S-ROAD, MIDDLESBROUGH, has assigned to Frederic J. Forster, 10, Royal-exchange, Middlesbrough, C.A. The unsecured liabilities are stated at £528, and net estimate of assets £300. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Horwitz, D., and Co.	London	13	2	1
Harburg, Henry., and Co....	,,	25	17	6
Cohen, J., and Son...	Birmingham	134	13	8
Unna, J. A.	,,	18	4	0
Brockington Bros.	,,	20	14	6
Smith, Sidney	,,	120	0	0
Yeomans. Samuel	Coventry	12	1	6
Brash, Jos.	Manchester	15	13	11
Myres, Jos.	,,	38	7	11
Soppett, H. P.	Middlesborough	12	0	0
Nodder, John, and Sons	Sheffield	43	19	5

GUPPY, JOHN (GUPPY, THOMAS JOHN, trading as), *Jeweler*, 2A, ST. MARY-STREET, WEYMOUTH, has assigned to George E. Corfield, Exchange-chambers, New-street, Birmingham. The unsecured liabilities amount to £1,475 ; the estimated net assets are £1,030. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Simpson, S. J.	London	167	0	0
Reynolds, Charles	,,	65	0	0
Bromitt, A.	,,	202	0	0
Marion	,,	88	0	0
Hyman, Abraham A.	,,	38	0	0
Mariam, I.	,,	23	0	0
Wisby, J.	,,	22	0	0
Poulton and Son	,,	36	0	0
Bethell, T. H. (rent)	,,	20	0	0
Wilmot, B. D.	Birmingham	15	0	0
Mott	,,	150	0	0
Bowen, G., and Son	,,	19	0	0
Lyde, W. H.	,,	22	0	0
Griffith, W., and Sons...	,,	140	0	0
Williamson, C....	,,	60	0	0
Briggs, W.	Shetfield	18	0	0
Eliott, Pearce, and Co...	Weymouth	180	0	0
Guppy, Sarah	,,	50	0	0
Dowell, Walter...	,,	24	0	0

HAWLEY AND SON, *Jewelers*, 289, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON (HENRY GEORGE HAWLEY and FREDERICK VERNON HAWLEY), have assigned to Lawrence Hasluck, 17, Holborn-viaduct. A composition of 10s. in the £, payable by six equal instalments at 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, and 18 months from January 11th, 1894, is secured by assignment upon trust until default. The unsecured liabilities amount to £1,980; the estimated net assets are £1,236. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Buller, Dean, and Rhode	London	112	0	0
Eady, Paris, and Eady	,,	80	0	0
Guye, P., and A.	,,	18	0	0
Hutchinson and Co.	London	85	0	0
Hasluck Bros.	,,	18	0	0
Hawley, Miss A. E. (cash and interest) ...	,,	97	0	0
Hawley, H. S.	,,	31	0	0
Harvey and Sons	,,	51	0	0
Jennens, J. C., and Son	,,	35	0	0
Kirwan and Co.	,,	42	0	0
Kirkham Bros.	,,	23	0	0
Lawson and Ward	,,	35	0	0
Mojon, Manger, and Co.	,,	119	0	0
Saunders and Shepherd	,,	293	0	0
Stauffer, Son, and Co.	,,	34	0	0
Wasserburg, S. H.	,,	102	0	0
Williamson, H., Limited	,,	156	0	0
Alabaster and Wilson	Birmingham	41	0	0
Banks, J. M.	,,	107	0	0
Barnet, G.	,,	61	0	0
Coombes, S., and G.	,,	258	0	0

JACKSON, J. and V. E., *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, 87, EASTBANK-STREET, and 6, WINDSOR-ROAD, SOUTHPORT, has assigned to Benjamin A. Roberts, 4, London-street, Southport. The unsecured liabilities are £534, estimated net assets £342 19s. 6d. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Parker, E. G.	Altrincham	24	0	0
Sydenham, A.	Birmingham	248	0	0
Griffiths, W., and Sons	,,	54	0	0
Wilkinson, T., and Sons	,,	27	0	0
Bell, A.	Church	15	0	0
Boyd, John, and Co.	Manchester	15	0	0
Jackson, P. and A.	Southport	44	0	0
Borough of Southport	,,	30	0	0
Separate creditor of JAMES JACKSON.				
Wolfenden, Joseph	Southport	10	0	0

LAW, BROS. (WILLIAM AND GEORGE LAW), *Jewelers*, 36, ST GEORGE'S-PLACE, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, and 64, BROMPTON-ROAD, and 282, CLAPHAM-ROAD, have assigned to James Savage, jeweler, High-street, Kensington, and another, a composition of 6s. in the £, payable 5s. on execution, and 1s. at six months from November 27th, 1893. Secured for creditors, £1,602. The unsecured liabilities amount to £3,430 : estimated net assets, £1,200. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Charles, James	London	131	0	0
Jonas Bros.	,,	409	0	0
Lott	,,	15	0	0
Richardson	,,	21	0	0
Conway	,,	30	0	0
Davenport, A. J., and Co.	,,	67	0	0
Johnson. G. W.	,,	32	0	0
Brook, G. H., and Co.	,,	936	0	0
Walters	,,	29	0	0
Savage, J.	,,	257	0	0
Habben, Jonathan	,,	180	0	0
Law, Mrs.	,,	850	0	0
Swan, G. E....	,,	50	0	0
Kent, William Gipps	,,	25	0	0
Deacon and Francis	Birmingham	93	0	0
Cox Bros.	,,	55	0	0
Prime and Son	,,	11	0	0

MUNN, WALTER, *Jeweler*, 14, LIVERPOOL-STREET, E.C., and 74, ST. JOHN'S-WOOD, CLAPHAM JUNCTION, has assigned to James F. H. Shepherd, manufacturing jeweler, Bartlett's-buildings, E.C., and another, with a committee of inspection. The unsecured liabilities are £1,207 ; estimated net assets, £590. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Brook and Co.	London	121	1	0
Dangerfield Printing Co.	,,	61	16	0
Jacqueman Bros.	,,	131	2	5
Marlborough and Pewtress	,,	20	0	0
Michael Bros.	,,	34	14	6
Miller Bros.	,,	151	7	3
Mojon and Manger...	,,	66	19	6
Nesbitt, R. C.	,,	200	0	0
Perrier, M. A.	,,	76	2	0
Saunders and Shepherd	,,	216	5	2
Stauffer, Son, and Co.	,,	25	18	0

NEUBERT, FRANK ALFRED, *Optician*, 28, CHAPEL-STREET, has assigned to John Mainwaring, Warrington. The unsecured liabilities are £603, estimated net assets £300. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Baroux and Bion	London	17	0	0
Wrench, J., and Son	,,	22	0	0
Fourdrinier, Hunt, and Co, ...	,,	13	0	0

		£	s.	d.
Levi and Co.	London	12	0	0
Houghton and Son	,,	16	0	0
Horwitz, D., and Co.	,,	15	0	0
Société des Lunetiers	,,	22	0	0
London and Paris Optic and Clock Co. ...	,,	19	0	0
Purdom and Stokes...	Birmingham	47	0	0
Mawson and Swan	Newcastle-on-Tyne	11	0	0
Poirson and Goldenstein	Paris	34	0	0
Johnson, R., and Co.	Southport	11	0	0
Southport Borough Rate	,,	14	0	0
Mainwaring, John	Warrington	130	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS	... ...	26	0	0

RAYNOR, PHILIP (PHILIP RAPHAEL, trading as), *Jeweler*, 19, FEATHERSTONE-BUILDINGS, E.C., has assigned to Geo. G, Poppleton (Poppleton and Appleby), 164, Aldersgate-street, E.C., with a committee of inspection. The unsecured liabilities are £1,497 ; estimated net assets, £700. Amongst the creditors are the following : —

		£	s.	d.
Leaver and Breeze	London	41	0	0
Ashford, J., and Son	Birmingham	33	0	0
Alldridge, W. C.	,,	47	0	0
Forrester Bros.	,,	414	0	0
Green, Cadbury, and Co.	,,	203	0	0
Hammond, Turner, and Sons	,,	174	0	0
Owen, Henry	,,	189	0	0
Pearce and Thompson	,,	41	0	0
Smith, A. J.	,,	79	0	0
Wall, John	,,	40	0	0
Walton, G. E., and Co., Limited	,,	124	0	0
Stuart and Co.	Bolton	25	0	0
Gerson, Heymann, and Co.	Paris	35	0	0

RILEY, F. B., AND CO. (FRANCIS BOLTON RILEY, trading as), *Jewelers*, 92, PARADISE-STREET, LIVERPOOL, and 7, INMAN-ROAD, LITHERLAND, near LIVERPOOL, have assigned to John Rollason, manufacturer, 81, Vyse-street, Birmingham, and another. The deed of assignment is with a view to payment of creditors in full within twelve months from date. The unsecured liabilities are about £989; estimated net assets, £1,934 5s. 10d. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Rosemont Comb Co....	London	10	0	0
Mahla Bros.	,,	34	0	0
Merzback, Lang, and Fellheimer	,,	26	0	0
Michael Bros....	,,	32	0	0
Koch and Co....	,,	14	0	0
Jahres Uhrenfabrich, Limited	Baden	27	0	0
Kaldenbach and Rahm	Barmen	29	0	0
Rollason, John, and Bros.	Birmingham	70	0	0
Page, W., and Co.	,,	12	0	0
Haseler, W. H.	,,	24	0	0
Pellow, W. J.	,,	10	0	0
Francis, John...	,,	36	0	0
Ward Bros.	,,	22	0	0
Adams, J.	,,	15	0	0
Britton, B. H., and Sons	,,	40	0	0
Giles, H.	,,	26	0	0
Perks, T.	,,	28	0	0
Hopwood, T....	,,	27	0	0
Pepper, Payton, and Co.	,,	46	0	0
Tabbener, W.	,,	60	0	0
Booth, E. F., and Sons	,,	22	0	0
Green, Cadbury, and Co.	,,	16	0	0
Collins, C. H.	,,	13	0	0
Pendleton, W., and Sons	,,	18	0	0
Devonport, W.	,,	17	0	0
Read, A. H.	Coventry	19	0	0
Hersfeld Bros.	Frankfort	21	0	0
Mercier	Paris	88	0	0
Doerfel, C. F., Steinfetsen, and Co. ...	Saxony	17	0	0
Williamson, S., and Son	Sheffield	19	0	0
Wing, G.	,,	10	0	0

SILVERMAN, ISAAC, *Jeweler, etc.*, 144, VARNA-ROAD, EDGBASTON, late of 51, HOLLOWAY-HEAD, BIRMINGHAM, has assigned to Allen Edwards, Birmingham, C.A., with a committee of inspection. The unsecured liabilities are £3,784 ; estimated net assets, £4,554. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Weill and Co.	London	25	0	0
Borgzinner Bros.	,,	37	5	0
Ries, Ada, and Co.	,,	44	4	3
Maas and Co.	,,	95	15	9
Ehrhardt, E.	,,	58	6	9
Jones, H. B.	,,	214	13	0
Hirsch, Pritchard, and Co.	,,	22	18	6
Koch and Co.	,,	30	15	9
Drews and Co....	London	20	3	6
Newmark, L.	,,	55	13	0
Tweer, W.	,,	28	15	6
Lyons, M.	Birmingham	65	5	6
Nathan Bros.	,,	188	4	0
Smith, J., and Co.	,,	36	10	10
Britton, B. H., and Sons	,,	34	7	0
Cox, W. F.	,,	23	18	0
Wallis, G. and T. E.	,,	71	8	7
Hancox...	,,	20	19	11
Payne, D.	,,	79	11	1
March, E. A.	,,	35	8	0
Turner, W. F....	,,	48	11	6
Evans, E. M., and Son	,,	31	0	7
Durban and Co.	,,	25	19	1
Davis, Montague	,,	139	12	9
Jacob, L.	,,	55	5	6
Goldsmid Bros.	,,	145	9	4
Renis, J.	,,	31	15	1
Adams, J.	,,	18	19	9
Reading, G. E.	,,	110	19	0
English Watch Co.	,,	34	16	0
Lister and Wright	,,	280	14	0
Hinde Bros.	,,	57	10	10
Coley Bros.	,,	38	16	4
Rowbotham, C.	,,	47	1	9
Harton, John...	,,	128	16	0
Mills, W.	,,	40	1	1
Payton, F. W.	,,	41	5	9
Neale, L. E.	,,	36	18	6
English Watch Case Co.	,,	21	0	0
Potosi Silver Co.	,,	31	10	2
Booth, E. F. and Sons	,,	46	4	0
Neale, W., and Sons	,,	16	16	6
Needham, W.	,,	29	4	6
Whitehouse, E.	,,	126	17	0
Haseler, H. and P.	,,	30	8	6
Wilkinson and Riddle	,,	17	7	11
Cox Bros.	,,	498	1	3
Silverman, J. L.	,,	73	0	0
Silverman, L.	,,	15	0	0
Marks, D.	,,	17	0	0
Hawley, J., and Son	Coventry	30	0	0
Sedgwick and Woodhead	Manchester	18	2	10
Baum, M.	Sheffield	23	15	7
Carter, W. C.	... ...	134	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS	... ...	85	12	6

NOTICES TO CREDITORS.

BAKER, JOHN SIMPKINS BRADLEY (JOHN BAKER AND CO., trading as), *Cutlery Manufacturer*, 305, UPPERTHORPE, and PHŒNIX CUTLERY WORKS, WHEELDON-STREET, SHEFFIELD. First dividend of 5s. at Official Receiver's, Sheffield, January 8th.

BARKSHIRE, JAMES, *Watch and Clock Maker*, *Gold and Silversmith*, *Jeweler*, *and Optician*, 1, ST. MARY'S PARADE, MINSTER-STREET, READING. Discharge granted : November 16th, 1893.

BELL, HENRY, *Watchmaker*, 26, LOWER ASHLEY-ROAD BRISTOL. Dividend of 4s. at Official Receiver's, Bristol January 8th.

CUNNINGHAM, ROBERT WILLIAM, *Jeweler and Musical Instrument Dealer*, 76, OXFORD-STREET, MANCHESTER. Dividend of 2s. 6½d. at Ogden's-chambers, Bridge-street, Manchester, January 5th.

FLETCHER, FREDERICK WYLIE, *Jeweler*, STATION-STREET, COCKERMOUTH. Dividend of 1s. 9⅝d. at Official Receiver's, Carlisle, December 29th, 1893.

FRODSHAM, HENRY HERBERT, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 3, HARPUR-STREET, BEDFORD. Proofs by February 7th. Trustee : Official Receiver, Bedford.

GAUNT, JOSEPH, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 10, QUEEN-STREET, BARNSLEY. Dividend of 1s. 3½d., at Official Receiver's, Sheffield, December 29th.

HASLETT, DAVID, *Goldsmith*, 18, GOLDEN-SQUARE. Discharge granted (November 16th, 1893) as from November 16th, 1895.

HILTON, JAMES, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 10, BOLTON-STREET, BURY. Dividend of 5s. 11¼d. at Official Receiver's Bolton, December 18th.

MACDONALD, WILLIAM, *Jeweler*, 4, GREYFRIARS-PLACE, EDINBURGH. First and final dividend at James Craig's, 27, York-place, Edinburgh, C.A., March 1st.

ROBERTO, WILLIAM ALFRED, *Jeweler and Silversmith*, CLIFTON-PLACE, BAILEY-STREET, and 21, BAILEY-STREET

OSWESTRY. Dividend of 9s. 8d. at Official Receiver's, Chester, December 30th, 1893.

TAYLOR, CHARLES WILKINS, *Watchmaker*, COPPICE-SIDE, SWADLINCOTE. Dividend of 7½d. at Official Receiver's, Derby, December 18th.

DISSOLUTIONS OF PARTNERSHIP.

BRIGGS BROS., *Watchmakers, Jewelers, etc.*, 332, KENNINGTON PARK-ROAD, and 207, NEWINGTON-BUTTS. December, 25th, 1893. Debts by Harry Lambert Briggs.

COHEN, I., AND SON, *Wholesale Jewelers and General Merchants*, 66, GREAT HAMPTON-STREET, and 66 and 67, VYSE-STREET, BIRMINGHAM. December 30th, 1893. Debts by Israel Cohen, who continues under the same style.

COLLINS, H. G., AND CO., *Goldsmiths, Jewelers, Clock and Watch Makers*, 29, KING'S-ROAD, BRIGHTON. March 20th, 1893. Debts by Henry Gould Collins.

SPAUL AND JOHNSON, *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, 15, LUDGATE-HILL. January 6th. Debts by Charles John Johnson, who continues under the style of Johnson and Co.

WHOLESALE SUPPLY CO. (ELDRIDGE, LYON, SEELIG, AND CO., proprietors), *Importers of Watches*, 46A, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER. December 6th. Debts by Claude Charles Eldridge and Harry Morris Lyon, who continue under the same style.

Foreign Watch and Clock Makers' Society.

ON the 15th ult. this society held its jubilee dinner at the Swiss Hotel, Soho, when some seventy of its members met to celebrate the fiftieth birthday of an institution which would be possible only in cosmopolitan London. Mr. C. A. Cottebrune presided, and Mr. J. Beha occupied the vice-chair, amongst those present being Messrs. F. Lecluse, F. Thoma, W. Willman, A. Beha, W. Kimer, E. Koeppel, and V. Cottebrune (secretary). Although the society covers many nationalities, the usual loyal toast was proposed by the chairman and drunk with enthusiasm. When the president proposed the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Society," it was made obvious that the society was in a most flourishing financial position. There are 108 members, whose contributions reached £119, making with the balance and dividends a total of £260. The disbursements, including £86 in payments to sick members and £20 for two members' deaths, reached £196. During the year the society was able to purchase £50 of Consols, making its holdings £2,200. Mr. J. Beha, in giving the toast of the president, which was enthusiastically received, said that he had been a member of the society since 1846, becoming a vice-president in 1868. For the last eleven years he had filled his present post. During the evening the president was presented with a portrait in oils of himself, and the treasurer, Mr. E. Petit, with a gold watch in commemoration of the jubilee of the society.

The Burma Pearl Fisheries.

A DETERMINED attempt is to be made shortly to develop and exploit the pearl fisheries in the Mergui Archipelago. These are now rented by the Government of Burma to Chinese contractors for Rs. 30,000 a year, a circumstance which in itself indicates that they possess a considerable value. But as it is quite possible on the one hand that the Chinese contractors are astute enough to conceal the true value as known to themselves, or that they are not sufficiently equipped with appliances to explore all the oyster grounds that may exist, so on the other it may be the case that they are working out the field too rapidly and leading to the extinction of the pearl-yielding oysters. For these reasons an application was recently made to the Queensland Government to send a qualified expert to examine the pearl-fields and advise as to the conditions on which they should be worked. The Queensland Government has responded to the request of the Government of India by sending an expert, Mr. Jardine, with a trained establishment and a complete diving equipment. His services will probably be retained by the Burmese Government until the commencement of the next monsoon. Mr. Jardine will also be engaged to report upon the pearling ground in the Andamans, and off Bassein and Akyab, where a few pioneers have recently been prospecting with marked success.

International Congress of Horology.—It is proposed to hold an International Congress of Chronometry and Horology in connection with the Exposition of Antwerp, and watchmakers all over the world are invested and urged to co-operate in making it a great succes,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Proposed Conference of Jewelers' at Liverpool.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me a small space in your valuable columns to draw the attention of the trade to the above. The executive committee of the Liverpool Amalgamated Society of Watchmakers and Jewelers invite delegates from any of the associations at present in existence or any individual member of the trade who is anxious or willing to assist in the work of the Congress. No fee will be charged for admission, and a most hearty welcome will be offered to all. The date of the congress will be fixed by the E.C. as soon as a reasonable time has elapsed to ascertain as near as possible the number who will attend this Congress. The object of this gathering is to discuss the undermentioned items :—

1. Extension of the Organisation.
2. Abolition or retention of the Plate Licence.
3. Government appointment of Trade Inspectors to carry out the advantages of the Merchandise Marks Act.
4. Taxation of Foreign Manufactured Watches, Materials, and Jewelry.
5. To consider the Compulsory Hall-marking Question.
6. To consider the advisability of a Standard Rate for Silver.
7. To consider the granting of Competency Certificates to all qualified workmen who have served their apprenticeship, or otherwise, as the Congress may determine.
8. To promote British Trade and Commerce.
9. Employers' Liability.
10. To guard the interests of the Trade against Hawkers, Swindlers, and Unprincipled Competitors.
11. Promotion of Technical Schools for Apprentices.
12. General.

Power will be given to Delegates to elect a Chairman. After the Congress, Delegates will be entertained to supper, and shown over the principal buildings, Electric Railway, etc.

Those who are willing to take part, please communicate to either—Yours faithfully, JOHN BRYANT, Chairman, Prescot-road, Fairfield, Liverpool, or, A. E. NEWCOMB, Secretary, 4, Fernon-chambers, Liverpool.

The Experiences of the Trade.

SIR,—It has often occurred to me that if members of the trade would give each month an example of their experiences how interesting and instructing they might prove. *Apropos* of the Phantom Clock, I would give an experience of clock business. Lady M—— left a carriage clock with me to clean. It was a really good clock, bought of a first-class firm—Messrs. Klaftenberger and Co., of Regent-street. The clock was entered in the day-book with number, name, and particulars, the work was done, and the clock duly sent home. Imagine my surprise at hearing from Lady M—— that the clock sent home did not belong to her. I explained that there could be no mistake, etc., etc. Still I could not convince her ladyship. So I sent to Messrs. Klaftenberger, and they very courteously attached their card and seal to the handle of the clock and certified that this clock was the one they sold to Lady M——. Still she would not believe it ; and I hear that to this day she asserts that I changed her clock ! and as good as says that I am a thief.—Yours, etc., E.

Staut or Staub.

SIR,—Can any of your readers oblige me with the information as to when a watchmaker of either of the above names resided in your city ?—STAUMM AND CO.

Death of Mr. Joseph Hewett.—On the 13th ult. Mr. Joseph Hewitt, jeweler and silversmith, Church-street, St. Helens, died at the age of seventy years. The deceased descended from a long line of watch movement manufacturers in Prescot. In 1865 he went to St. Helens, leaving his Prescot business to his son, the well-known Thomas P. Hewitt, the Rhodes of Horology. Ultimately the business developed into the Lancashire Watch Factory, of which he is now managing director. The deceased gentleman had been ailing for some time, but quite recently bronchitis and pneumonia supervened. Dr. M'Nicholl, of St. Helens, and Dr. Cousin, of Prescot, were in attendance, but death came somewhat suddenly. He was a Gladstonian Liberal and a Wesleyan local preacher. He leaves three sons—Mr. George Hewitt, director of the Prescot Technical Institute, and High Wrangler at Cambridge; Mr. T. P. Hewitt, director, and Mr. Charles Hewitt, works manager of the Lancashire Watch Factory; and four daughters,

The Watchmaker, Jeweler and Silversmith.

Edited by W. J. LEWIS ABBOTT, F.G.S.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.] [*Registered for Transmission Abroad.*

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IN THE INTERESTS OF THE TRADE.

NO CUTTING PRICES!

Cutting prices are not allowed to be advertised in this Journal; and no prices of any kind can be permitted to appear except such as come under the following headings:—

(1) Retail or selling prices to the public.

(2) The prices of patented or registered articles, or special articles manufactured and sold by one firm alone.

(3) The prices of outfits, plants, tools, instruments, materials, publications, &c., intended for, or used by the trade.

The kindly co-operation of all advertisers is invited.

The Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith:

Published on the 1st of each month by the Proprietors,

HEYWOOD & COMPANY, LIMITED.

Head Offices: 68, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Branch Offices at all the other Principal Business Centres.

Telegraphic and Cable Address:—"CONFECTORY, LONDON."

Telephone No. 2,882.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The Annual Subscription throughout the World is 5s., including postage; and it is payable in all cases in advance. Single current numbers are charged at 6d. each, 7½d. by post.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—There is a fixed printed tariff for trade advertisements, which will be forwarded on application. All prepaid situation and similar advertisements are inserted at 6d. per line (minimum 1s.). Name and Address in the Buyers' Guide, One Guinea per annum, payable in advance.

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS.—Manuscripts should be written clearly on one side of the paper only, and should in every case be accompanied by the name and address of the sender; where payment is expected, a definite statement to that effect should be made. The Editor cannot be responsible for missing MSS., but every care will be taken of copy submitted for consideration.

INQUIRIES.—Information is given, whenever possible, to inquirers, who are requested to assist by giving the fullest details of the matters to which their questions relate. In special cases replies will be given through the post, and for this purpose addressed and stamped envelopes must be supplied.

PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, & DESIGNS.—Arrangements have been made with an expert whereby subscribers to this journal can receive information respecting these free of charge. Letters of inquiry must be addressed to the Editor of THE WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, AND SILVERSMITH, Patents, Trade Marks, and Design Department, 68, Fleet-street, London, E.C., and must in every case contain stamped and directed envelope for reply.

Reform in the Patent Laws.—A short time ago the Society of Chemical Industry appointed a committee to inquire into the patent laws with a view to their amendment. The Committee decided to invite the co-operation of the Institute of Civil Engineers, the Society of Arts, the Chartered Institute of Patent Agents, Chambers of Commerce and other public bodies, and to present a memorial to the Government asking for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the subject. When the matter is taken up by such bodies as these, we may be sure that some of the much needed reforms will assuredly follow.

ENTRE NOUS
HARPOCRATES

By the Editor.

CHARGES OF THEFT.

A CASE was recently before the Redruth Assizes which emphasises the necessity of the greatest caution in accusing a suspected person of having stolen an article. By a little careful consideration and knowledge of the law, one can often express the same idea legally and fearlessly which if delivered in other words would render one answerable in heavy damages. In the above case it appears that Edwin Penrose, a Redruth jeweler, received a visit from two sisters, to whom he showed a tray of rings, the latter to the best of his knowledge and belief being full, without an empty space. Subsequently the ladies bought an engagement sealer for £1. After the business was settled and the jeweler began to put back his stock, he found *two* spaces left; and, as many of us would have done under the circumstances, he called the attention of his customers to the fact that one ring had disappeared. Subsequently he accused them of having taken it. A constable was sent for, and the customers unsuccessfully searched. Later in the day the husband of the one and the *fiancé* of the other lady called on the jeweler and demanded an explanation, which was given in the following words:—"The case was full of rings when I took it out, and when I came to put it back there was one short, besides the one I sold, and one of them has got it." Then followed the action for slander and false imprisonment. Here, however, a very curious plea was set up, the defendant stating that he did not use the words, but that if he did, they were true. Whereupon, the Judge observed that it was equivalent to one man saying to another: "You called me a thief!" and the other replying, "I did not, but if I did, it is true." The plea ought not to have been put in. If the defendant still alleged that one of the plaintiffs had the ring the issue was plain. If, on the other hand, defendant did not mean to say that one of the girls had the ring, but that it looked very much like it, it raised a very different issue. By which it would appear that, had the jeweler qualified his remarks at first, he would have escaped the action for slander. Subsequently, defendant's counsel stated that he wished to withdraw the plea, and that the jeweler denied that the words he used amounted to theft, and expressed his regret at having used them. He was also willing to consent to judgment for nominal damages of one shilling and costs. The case has, however, two lessons—first, one ought never to put a tray of rings before a customer without the receptacles are full, or the "empty" spaces filled with tightly fitting pieces of card, if otherwise, not without actually counting and checking the numbers and putting them down on a piece of paper on the counter (the latter must of course be done without the customer observing it), or if every ring is marked the unmarked spaces show the number of vacancies. If this course is followed it will greatly reduce, if not almost entirely preclude, the danger of action for false imprisonment. Secondly, one ought never to charge a person without being *sure*, and able, whatever transpires, to substantiate the charge.

HOROLOGICAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

IN the early part of last year our Lancastrian friends made their County Council realise that some of the money spent upon technical education ought to fall to the lot of the horological industry. After this had been clearly shown, the Council were prepared to spend the money upon horological technical education, when they were met with the uncomfortable fact that they had no school or institution capable of imparting the instruction necessary. But before taking any definite steps in the matter they wisely elected to send a competent committee to visit all the Continental schools and report upon them, before deciding upon the course to be taken in Lancashire. That committee have now returned and given in their report, which states that a County School of Horology is urgently needed, and that the classes now held do not impart the thorough teaching, either theoretical or practical, that is given on the Continent. Prescot is naturally suggested as the centre, and the Horological School of Geneva is recommended as a model, with the addition of instruction in the manufacture of clocks and electric apparatus as taught at Furtwangen. In the report upon the technical schools of France and Switzerland the committee have little to tell us that has not been ably put by Julien Tripplin, F.R.A S., in that invaluable book on "Watchmaking in 1889," a copy of which we hope is in the hands of every one of our readers. There can be no doubt that the time has arrived when some very energetic steps must be taken to save the British watch trade. It is admitted on all hands that the lack of ability on the part of British mechanics in general to understand the higher governing principles which underlie their work puts them in an unfair position in the struggle for the trade of the future, compared with their Continental neighbors. We do not regard this for a moment as a Lancashire question, it is one of National importance. We have fought a fight in the past which gained us a name, and a name so good that it was—or shall we say *will be*—hard to lose. But whether our actual position is what many goodly disposed and patriotic Englishmen think it is, is altogether another question. Certain it is, and it is idle and cruel to deny it, we are in many ways losing ground, and unless someone steps in and succeeds in making us realise that nothing stands still, that with changed times and conditions we must have changed tactics and abilities, the fair name so dearly bought by our forefathers will be trodden under foot and ground to dust, in the ingenious machinery of foreign competitors. Our grand old "wooden walls" were noble structures; they defended our sea-girt isle and defied the aggressions of the enemy. But what should we think of them now? Should we care to hang the fate of Britain on them again in these days of eighty-ton guns and torpedoes? Certainly not! Yet some of our methods in horology are just as antiquated, and date as far back as the noble old structures to which we have just referred. Why have we abandoned the old wooden crafts and the muzzle-loaders? Not simply because we have had clever men to invent better, but because we have had to keep pace with or ahead of our competitors. And if we wish to retain our supremacy in watchmaking we must go ahead of our opponents, instead of which we are practically doing nothing. National a question as it is, we fear Parliament cannot possibly take the initiative. Horology is an impoıtant industry, but it is limited practically to three counties, Middlesex, Lancashire, and Warwickshire. Could not all the trade associations combine to press upon each of the councils of these counties the imperilled position of our trade, which by a helping hand now can still be not only kept afloat, but made, like Mother Britain, mistress of the waves.

LIVERPOOL WATCHMAKERS' AND JEWELERS' ASSOCIATION.

THE energies put forth by this society during the last six weeks have really been so great that it would require a fair-sized volume to record them all. If it goes on at this rate it will have to employ a paid secretary and editor, and issue monthly "proceedings" and "transactions" *à la* the Royal societies. Every few days there been something on the carpet. The last week or so in January was devoted mainly to Prescot, and the formation of a branch society there, and the effort may be characterised as a perfect success. From the unequivocal, outspoken manner of A. E. Newcomb it is evident the policy of this association is politically "Unionist" rather than what would by many be regarded as revolutionary "Trade Unionist." He urges the men of the Prescot factory to stick to Manager Hewett and back him through thick and thin, until the industry is a paying concern, and the capitalists are making more out of it than they ought. He pointed out the curses of cutters advertising to clean a watch for a shilling, and suggested that nothing but unity on the part of workmen could stop this. The society has also, at its recent meetings, discussed various extremely important questions in connection with the trade, which will be more representatively entered into at the forthcoming Congress. On January 25th the question of plate licence came up for consideration, when some very sensible remarks fell from the speakers. They did not appear to oppose the tax, but what they objected to was the laxity with which it was enforced, which allowed drapers, hosiers, and others to escape, and they considered that the tax ought either to be properly and rigidly enforced, or repealed—a position which we ourselves have always maintained. We knew a jeweler, who paid the full gold and silver licence with quite a small shop. This man had a son in trade as a hosier, not a hundred miles from Tottenham Court-road, and the latter paid no licence, yet often he absolutely sold more gold and silver in a week than did his father! The next question which came up for discussion was one upon which there would naturally be a diversity of opinion, namely, "Protection." However, the resolution:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the time has arrived when the Government ought to place a tax upon all foreign watches coming into this country, and so give our English watch manufacturers a chance to compete in their own markets," was carried. At the next meeting came the question of the "Hall marking," and here a resolution was carried not at all in harmony with the views of Mr. Watherston. At intervals of a week, other meetings discussed the important questions of the Merchandise Marks Act, "How to deal with hawkers," and "Technical Education." But in between these came other meetings of a more social character, such as concerts and dances; and on the 14th ult. was held the annual Tea Party and Ball. (We suppose that we Southerners would call it a *soiree* or *conversazione*—the homely expression of tea-party has been relegated to female gossip-councils.) The date of the conference announced in our last issue has now been postponed from Easter to June; elsewhere in our paper will be found the reasons for this. We are sure we wish the trade every success over the issues of the congress, as it only needs support to make the gathering instrumental of lasting good to our crafts. While we congratulate Liverpool upon its display of energy, and the choice of important issues for discussion the association has made, we certainly cannot help saying we wish a similar gathering had been inaugurated in London by a good representative English committee. Still the Liverpool Congress may pave the way for things of a more extensive nature. We have heard from many members of the trade that they are looking for great things from the London Association, and we have been informed (in confidence) that many questions have been raised already on the committee which indicate that the association will ere long develop into our ideal guild. But its good work must necessarily bear some relation to its support. Therefore we hope every member of the trade who feels that he cannot carry everything before him will join the association. We also hope that the London members of the trade who have promised to attend the Liverpool congress will be thoroughly representative. Mr. Watherston is certainly one of the most prominent and able men in the trade, and worthy of the steel of every champion of the other side. Our advice to his opponents is, remember time was when many self-contented members laughed at the idea of Mr. Watherston's "fad" and the repeal of the tax; yet that gentleman kept his face to the forefront, and went on to victory; and although many of us of more embracing views, in realising that certain sums must go to the national coffer, could not help feeling that there were many things less able to stand a duty than silver, yet what should we say now if we had to pay 1s. 6d an ounce duty with the white metal at 2s. 4d.? So with the repeal of the Hall Mark. Unless those who wish for its retention make the stand, they will assuredly meet the fate of a runaway.

OUR POSITION AS A JOURNAL.

Year by year, as the ages roll on, human knowledge keeps increasing and expanding in this and that direction until one is tempted to wonder where it will end. Time was when a man could very well master as much as was then known of a half-dozen branches of science—if, indeed, a half-dozen branches existed. Now, however, so great and manifold are the additions consequent upon the more elaborate and scientific methods employed that one can scarcely keep abreast with recent discoveries without becoming an absolute specialist; and in order that those may know what is being added that is really new to this or that branch of science special volumes are prepared each year where the subjects treated of are critically examined and classified and all that is new recorded. The most important of these is probably the *Annals of British Geology*. In this, amongst other things, is tabulated all that has been written of any importance during the year in any way connected with gems, either in the Proceedings of the learned societies, the magazines, in books or journals; and in looking through this subject in the lately published volume we find that the *only* journal that is credited with having contributed anything new to the sum of human knowledge regarding these modern expressions of wealth is the Watchmaker, Jeweler and Silversmith. Here in an index of three pages we find this journal favored with no less than four entries, Nos. 351, 521, 522, and 523. Facts like these speak something for the position of this journal and the quality of the information it carries to its readers. We are, from another point of view, sorry to find ourselves absolutely alone, and should like to see the other trade journals in a condition to supply something new and important, at least sometimes. We often think when we publish new but apparently small items, that if the readers only knew how much they cost we should be considered as out of our minds. But then, if no one made discoveries we should still be where we were in the stone age!

Man, now half-god, was once half-beast.

And all this evolution is the result of different members of the great human family finding out simple things. We hope that the simple things we are led to successfully investigate will continue to be of special interest to our readers, so that we shall go on increasing in popularity as we have during the last four years.

The Clock and Watch Makers' Pension Society.

A meeting of the above society will be held at the Horological Institute, Northampton-street, E.C., under the presidency of Mr. Josh. Walton, on April 30th, for the transaction of ordinary business, and the election of one more male recipient. This society, as we suppose all our readers are aware, is to provide as many pensions as the funds will permit, so as to enable elected members of the trade to spend their declining days with the members of their families or friends at their own homes.

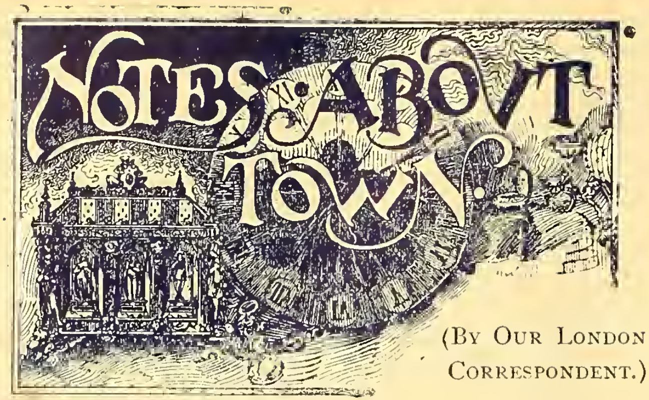
The Clock and Watch Makers' Asylum.

The annual meeting of the committee and friends of the above will take place on April 16th, when one male inmate will be elected. There are also, we believe, vacancies for two widows in the gift of the Clock Makers' Company, particulars of which can be had of Mr. Overall, Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall.

Popular Lecture on Diamonds.

Since the Royal Victoria Hall was first devoted to the intellectual elevation of the masses, many great princes of science have popularised some of the profoundest wonders of nature to immense audiences, but it is questionable if any of the discourses have been of a more romantic, fascinating, and at the same time scientifically accurate nature than that recently given by the world-wide authority on gems, F. W. Rudler, F.G.S., the esteemed curator of the Museum of Practical Geology, in Jermyn-street, London. Every jeweler in London, or that has ever visited the Metropolis, is probably familiar with the interesting and unparalleled display of gems in the horse-shoe case which extends round the first-floor gallery. Had we not known the Professor from his college days we should often have thought he had spent half his life as a jeweler, so thoroughly does he understand our needs. It was, therefore, no wonder, considering he is acknowledged to be one of the very finest speakers—if not the *finest*—of the day, that he should have been able to hold captive a large audience with such a subject as diamonds. The Professor began by relating some of the appalling crimes that people in the past have committed to become possessed of this gem. Then after describing the forms of its crystals he gradually led up to the cutting, the whole being illustrated with a specially prepared set of lantern slides. The composition and properties of the king of gems were also described in true Rudlerian style. Coming to the history of diamonds in South Africa, the subject entered a phase as romantic and sometimes almost as incredible as the Arabian Nights; still, every sentence was as accurate as eloquent, and everyone left the hall with some idea of how it is the diamond is so much prized.

Sad End of Historic Plate.—Recently four historic golden dishes were stolen from the castle of Prince Esterhazy, near Oedenburg, which the deceased Prince's father purchased for £5,000 when he was in his glory as ambassador in London fifty years ago. Two of these golden dishes, it is claimed, were once the property of Mary Queen of Scots, and Scottish noblemen, according to the tradition in the Esterhazy family, served the Queen's dinner on them daily. The other dishes are from a service which belonged to the Empress Maria Theresa. It is believed that some workmen who had to make repairs in the castle committed the theft, and in the town of Oedenburg a tradesman has been arrested. It is said that the police have already traced the golden plates, but, alas! they have been melted, and are but a lump of gold.



NOTES ABOUT TOWN.

(By Our London Correspondent.)

"How do *you* find things?" is about the first inquiry everywhere I put in an appearance in gathering the matter for these notes, and I find a general consensus in the trade that things are bad, but might be much worse, and everyone I speak to confidentially admits that January, 1894, was much better than the corresponding month last year. I am certain that in many branches of trade business is infinitely worse than in the jewelry. There are in many houses signs of positive briskness.

I have also an exceptional pleasure in my walks round town now, for I see in *every* window in the West End and City houses, and those of the large suburban establishments, displays more or less extensive of those charming transparent enamels which I first advocated some time ago, and indeed induced a leading firm to import from Paris and set the fashion in them. That is pleasure number one; pleasure number two is that a prominent English firm took my advice, and started making them, with the result that we have to-day on the market these exquisitely enamelled goods which all round are far superior to any turned out in the French capital, and as to price, in many instances, are fully one-third less. That is a tall order, I know! but I am prepared to prove it; I could even say very much less; in fact, I saw examples in which the superior English article was only one-half of the French.

I referred to these things in writing of the Christmas novelties. Just before the festive season was actually upon us I called at the factory of Chandler and Son, Newman-street. I noticed every bench was full and all was bustle. When I asked if they could show me any of these things someone was sent to gather up some from the workmen, in all stages except the finished, which they said was the best they could do, as they were sending them out as fast as they could make them. This was very nice, no doubt, for Chandler and Son, but not so edifying to me.

However, I called again the other day, and saw the benches just as full, but I was able to see many of the patterns which I had noticed in the shops in the finished state, and also a few new ones in progress. Amongst these the elegant coloring of this transparent enamelling as applied to balls for ladies' chains, the new pattern enamel bows for watch suspenders, and the exquisite little lockets struck me as being about the daintiest and most exquisite things we have ever had on the market of English manufacture.

These lockets are generally heart shape, obliquely divided into two colors, say a slightly fleshy white and ultramarine, or the latter replaced by a dark cherry red with a diamond in the centre. Of course, in all this transparent work the pattern of the underlay of gold shows through. Sometimes the colors are whole, at others they are broken by spots or stars of the precious metals.

Equally charming—and to some of highly cultivated aesthetic taste, even more so—are the patterns in which the colors pass insensibly from one to the other, as in the glorious iris. This effect is often very easily obtained; thus a dark green passes through lighter tints to the yellow of the gold, and the passage is so unbroken, and the hues glide so insensibly into each other, that the effect is not only fascinating but artistic. Not only do the greens thus pass up to the yellows in this natural manner, but the reds similarly pass through orange to golden, the transition being effected just as simply and easily. Few have any idea of how many different hues can be obtained by various thicknesses of semi-transparent material of one color. I should advise all manufacturers to get such a series of strips of colored gelatine as you, Mr. Editor, exhibited at the lectures on gemmology at the Horological Institute.

I also had the pleasure of seeing the enterprising firm of Saunders and Shepherd in the thick of this kind of work, and many and beautiful are the patterns they are turning out, not only in the more elaborate patterns, where gems form the principal items of cost, and swell the articles up beyond the ordinary pocket, but in more medium class goods—yet equally pretty—and numerically far more saleable.

A formidable rival for absolute precedence is the so-called "golden carnelian." Much of it doubtless is chalcedony of a golden hue, but the best of it, with the lovely brilliant surface-lustre is what is labelled in our museums as "Hungarian Opal." In my peregrinations I happened to drop into the shop of A. Wallace, the Charlotte-street lapidist, and as he does a large part of the best work for the trade, one is sure to see something good here at any time. I found one of the men busily engaged on the gem of the hour; one piece I picked up had just been chipped by the setter, which calls forth a word of caution on the greater care required with this stone compared with the more horny chalcedony, to which variety the carnelian belongs. And, speaking absolutely, it is perhaps just a trifle softer, but it is in brittleness and glassiness that the Hungarian opal particularly differs from absolute golden carnelian.. Its glassiness also implies a physical condition which results in the fracture being more like the transparent window material than the more or less horny carnelian.

I hope, Mr. Editor, I am right in all this; if I am I have to thank your instructions for it. If I am wrong—well, you have not turned out an efficient pupil, and I hope you will, for the benefit of all, put me right.

Amongst the late arrivals is a hybrid between the wire-work and the "golden carnelian," and so far as one can see, this cross fertilisation has resulted in a variety so different from anything else, and at the same time so beautiful, taking, and inexpensive, that it bids fair to usurp the peace long held by its predecessors in public favor. The article to which I refer is a necklace made of ovals of "golden carnelian" a little over a quarter of an inch long, separated by conventionalised daisies of wire with a pearl centre. They are finished wet color, and have a very rich appearance. I, assuming the naturalist, called this a hybrid, but now I find I am wrong! for this latter combination has given rise to another variety by the calling in of the aid of the new enamels. In this case the cabochon-cut golden stone is separated by a link of more solid form, where enamels are brought into use; and some remarkable blends are made. This requires great care, as the lustre of the enamel, if made too prominent, or brought too near the slightly inferior lustre of the stone, causes the latter to suffer somewhat. Indeed, it is best to introduce opaque neutralising enamels.

But I must not dwell entirely upon this class of trade, the other branches requiring a word or two. Amongst domestic timekeepers there has been a number of claimants for public favor. There are certain patterns which go on for ever, while others come and go, and these are so widely distributed that many people often bemoan the dearth of anything new in clocks. This assuredly is only because they do not know where to look for it. Turn, for instance, to the interesting display of novelties one can always find at the gallery of Gay Lamaille and Co., of Charterhouse-street. I never go there without being struck either by the beauty of some of the old Empire or Louis pieces, or more often by the entirely novel productions of the firm. One of the latest productions, which I am informed by my West End friends is taking well, is a remarkable admixture of the Occidental classics and Japanese. There is one set called "the Shakespeare," in which the body of the clock is of classic design in a lovely dark copper bronze, the capitals and bases, together with the panels, being polychroic metal-work. In the centre panels of the clock is displayed a charming representation of the well-known play scene in "Hamlet," executed in a style that only the Japanese turn out. I will not say *can*, because I believe that when the demand is raised Occidentals will be able in a short time to do this work just as well as the Orientals, especially after what has recently taken place in connection with the enamels. But to return to the "Shakespeare" set. The two vases are also bronze, and upon the medallions are scenes from "Romeo and Juliet." Altogether they are the most delicate, beautiful, refined productions of the kind I ever remember feasting my eyes upon.

ANOTHER novelty I noticed was one which has grown out of the crystal ball watches, which have had a good run, and may perhaps be easing a bit now. The watch is placed upon the shoulders of a bronze Hercules, and forms an excellent and useful ornament for the mantelpiece. A seasonable clock I noticed is constructed from the elements of the national game of golf, and as the season is now coming on it is well worth noting.

ANOTHER capital idea appears to have recently struck the fertile brains of Atkin Bros. They recently made an important and handsome silver shield for a football competition, and contrasting the beauty and imposing nature of the article with the low price demanded, decided to put such a shield into stock. This can be seen at their galleries. It is nearly 2ft. long, and could be given for a £25 prize; or perhaps, taking the question of advertisement into consideration, even a less price might be taken.

SPEAKING of silver reminds me of what I saw in the show-rooms of J. Round and Son, 114 and 115, Holborn Circus. There a superb bachelor's tea-set, not a toy size, sterling silver was shown me, marked—but there, you do not admit prices, and perhaps it's a good job in this case you don't, but you will allow me to say that it was only a trifle over old E.P.N.S. price, and everybody knows the high quality of work of this firm. It is not, however, in odd things like this alone that this firm excel; here I noticed new patterns in Queen Anne tea-sets, kettles, trays, and candlesticks, while in lamps the assortment and novelties were extraordinary.

THERE is yet another branch of our trade that I must not forget—the optical. Seeing a large 60 × 40 poster about, advertising the well-known "opselus" spectacles, I called on Raphael and Co., Oxford-street, and found that that enterprising firm had produced this imposing picture in seven colors, and nicely framed, which they give to all their customers for display or posting, with the customer's own name printed upon the advertisement. If I had not already made my notes so long, I should like to detail a few other things I saw here, but they must unavoidably wait.

Annual Dinner at the Clock and Watchmakers' Asylum.

THIS annual festival was of more than usual interest this year. As is known to almost all our readers, the chairman of the asylum gives the inmates a dinner every year, on which occasion the latter become the absolute guests, and the chairman and friends wait upon the old folks, as though they were peers of the realm. Amongst those present were: Mr. R. H. Halford, Chairman of the Committee of the Asylum, who presided, in which office he was efficiently supported by Mrs. R. H. Halford, Mr. John Woodman (Deputy Chairman), Mr. Philip Woodman (Treasurer), Mr. Thomas Baxter and Mrs. Baxter, Mr. Barnsdale, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Barnsdale, Mr. R. W. Cole, Mrs. Cole, and the Misses Cole, Mr. S. A. and Miss Brooks, Mr. T. Vine and Mrs. Vine, Mr. L. Donne and Miss Donne, Mr. and Mrs. E. Terry, Mr. and Mrs. Salmon, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. H. Halford, Mr. W. J. H. Halford, Mr. R. C. H. Halford, Mr. J. A. Clemence, Mr. J. J. Goode, J.P., and Miss Goode, Miss Woodman, Mr. and Mrs. P. Meek, Mr. J. Usher, Mr. C. Dunn, Mrs. Payne, Miss Julia Halford, Mr. T. Taylor, Mr. J. Tovell, and other friends, with Mrs. Marian Spring, a specially invited guest, and Mr. Hankin, executor under the will of the late Mr. Edwin Spring.

The tables having been cleared, the first part of the programme consisted in presenting to Mrs. Marian Spring a beautiful bouquet, got together by the inmates of the asylum, and an exquisitely illuminated address from the committee, which set forth the laudable gifts she had from time to time made to the asylum. The Chairman then, amidst much enthusiasm and prolonged applause, proposed "Long life of prosperity, health, and happiness to Mrs. Marian Spring." It was well known to them, he said, that Mrs. Spring had given to that Asylum munificent donations amounting to £1,500. She, who had felt the pangs that widowhood brings, had turned her thoughts to the way in which she could honor the memory of her husband, who had been a co-worker with them, and at the same time make that honor lasting by connecting it with some work with which in his lifetime he had been associated; she had thought of poor widows of men who had been engaged in the trade of which Mr. Spring himself was a member, and fortunately for them she determined to erect a widows' house. (Applause). This was at a cost of £350, but her practical bounty neither began nor ended there; some previous sums had been given, and learning of the committee's anxiety as to the maintenance, and the payment of the £30 per annum to be divided among the inmates, their friend Mrs. Spring had again come forward and calmed all their fears by the handsome gift of one thousand pounds more, so that this widows' house might be endowed for ever. Such deeds as those of Mrs. Spring made words unnecessary, they knew the good intention and its practical application, and they resolved to offer her their sentiments of gratitude, to some extent told in the language of the illuminated address they tendered. Mr. Hankin, the executor under Mr. Spring's will, responded for the generous benefactress. In the next toast, "The Officers of the Asylum," Mr. P. Woodman was brought to his feet. He said he thought they complimented him too much. ("No, no.") Well, he had tried to serve the Institution faithfully and in a way which he should continue. They had had a very eventful year, one of great prosperity, as they had been able to gather in something near £3,000, including the very noble amount from Mrs. Spring. Thanks to the efforts of all who in the past and present had lent their aid, they now had in the existence of their Institution a solid monument that would stand the test of ages. Their financial position was a sound one, and he knew all friends would keep working together to still further maintain and strengthen it. To the toast of "The Inmates" Mr. I. S. Hammond responded in an excellent speech. Like the Robson of his young days he was both pathetic and humorous at one standing, and as he is an inmate he has a right to speak as such. Of real wants, said he, we have none, and as to imaginary wants—why, they exist everywhere. He often thought the lot of the inmates was better than that of the subscribers, as the former had no fear of the gas or water rate man, but they had 365 days a year to be thankful, and occasionally special ones like the present. Other toasts were "The Chairman," "The Visitors," "The Committee," and "The Ladies," "The Past Presidents" and "The Press," the latter being responded to by a representative of the Clerkenwell paper, *The Weekly News and Chronicle*. There was also an excellent musical programme.

BIRMINGHAM
NOTES

(By Our Own Correspondent.*)

It is with great hesitation that I commence my Notes for the present issue. I had hoped that after the phenomenal depression which characterised January some improvement, however slight, must occur in a few weeks at the latest, but, unfortunately, such has not been the case. It is usual to think that after things have reached their worst a reaction must come, but there is no indication of anything of the sort at present. No doubt the early commencement of Lent has had an unfavourable influence on trade. It is a well-known fact that the Lenten season has always been prejudicial to trade. In addition to this we have also had to face the continued depression of the staple industries of the country, and so long as these show no signs of improvement it is useless to expect any revival in the demand for more luxuries. Mr. Chamberlain's dictum that "The desire for ornament is like hope, which springs eternal in the human breast," is, doubtless, quite true, but until such time as money becomes a little easier we shall find people restraining perforce this very natural and, from the jeweler's point of view, laudable desire.

It is pretty certain, however, that some slight, even though temporary, improvement must take place in March. The latter part of a quarter almost invariably brings with it a demand for goods which are as invariably "dated forward." This year the current purchases by wholesalers have been so small that it will be almost impossible for the majority to postpone their March parcels.

The continued downward tendency of silver is having a very depressing effect on the manufacture of silver wares. For the last five or six years the makers of silver knick-knacks—brushes, flower-vases, toilet boxes, and such like articles—have had a very good time of it, but at the present moment they are, almost without an exception, complaining that trade has come to a standstill. Most of the makers have been meeting the fall in silver by varying their discount from time to time, but buyers now seem thoroughly frightened, and are, for the most part, doing with as little new stock as possible. This at first sight seems unreasonable, because the fall must now be very near the bottom. It should be remembered that there is a minimum cost of production and a percentage to the mine owner, and this prime cost, plus freight and commissions, must almost have been reached.

I hear that the soirée of the Operative Jewellers' Trade Society, which was held on February 6th, was well attended, and, I presume, will consequently be a financial success.

Mr. N. J. Holmes, of Hockley Hill, is now busy with a further extension of his premises. It is only a few years since he moved into his present building, and this makes the second extension which the rapid growth of his business has necessitated.

The failure of Messrs. J. Reading and Sons, Spencer-street, will doubtless be a surprise to many. The firm has done a large business in various branches, and has been very successful in the past, but for some few years it has suffered severely by the succession of withdrawals. The retiring partners in each case have not only taken capital out of the business, but have commenced new undertakings, which have doubtless contributed to the downfall of the parent firm. I understand that Mr. F. F. Reading, of Vyse-street, himself an old member of the firm, s to buy the estate from the trustee. No doubt, the remaining business, in combination with his own, will be made to pay very well.

The failure of Westwood Bros., 20, Warstone-lane, helps to show the necessity of young beginners getting a clear start, free from bygone ideas and old stock. Mr. B. W. Westwood, to whose business they succeeded, made a speciality of cameos and enamel paintings and fine gem rings and pins, and, as most people are aware, such goods, although saleable enough in the past, now meet with a comparatively small demand. To dispose of a stock like this in the present state of the jewellery trade is well-nigh impossible, and the occasional breaking-up of portions of it simply aggravated the position. It is likely enough that with a fresh start the firm may go on satisfactorily, but under the former conditions their task must have been hopeless from the very first.

All who knew him will regret to hear of the death of Mr. J. Hemming, of the firm of Hemming and Hazlewood, Spencer-street. He was at business as usual on the Friday evening, and dead by the commencement of the ensuing week.

Several Birmingham firms are interested in the affairs of Mr. Isidor Rothschild, of Wellington, New Zealand, who is endeavouring to make some arrangement with his creditors. Mr. Rothschild was formerly a member of the firm Rothschild, Jacob and Co., and it is rather a curious coincidence that news of Mr. Jacobs' death has just been cabled over.

The revival of enamel seems to be gaining ground. It is coming into increased favour for the relief of designs and precious stones, and is also used in spots and dashes of brilliant color to brighten up plain surfaces. To all who delight in artistic effects this will be good news, and they will wish the movement well. The general use of enamel would be of service in many ways. In addition to stirring up the enamellers, who are still far from busy, it would offer an inexhaustible field for the designer, and incapable hands might do much to bring colored gold work into fashion again. The ordinary goldsmith does not benefit greatly by the demand for diamond goods, as it is to a great extent a special branch, and for the ordinary work of mounting odd stones, which falls to his share, remuneration is comparatively small.

There is a renascence with the approach of the light nights of the early closing movement for assistants in the jewelers' shops. Unluckily, the holding aloof of some two, or at most, three retailers prevents at present the realisation of the idea locally. The conduct of these obstructionists ought to be made known to the public. It is monstrous that young men should work fourteen or fifteen hours a day *at any employment;* yet that is what several have to put up with. As a result of several inquiries, I learn that very little money is taken after six o'clock, unless it is on Friday or Saturday, and no doubt this would be taken in any case. It is the fact of unlimited hours which makes some customers so careless as to the time of making their purchases.

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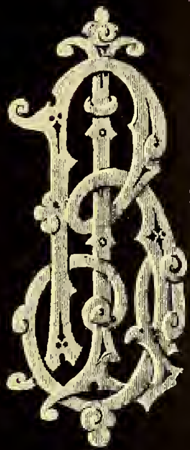
* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

WATCHMAKER, JEWELER AND SILVERSMITH.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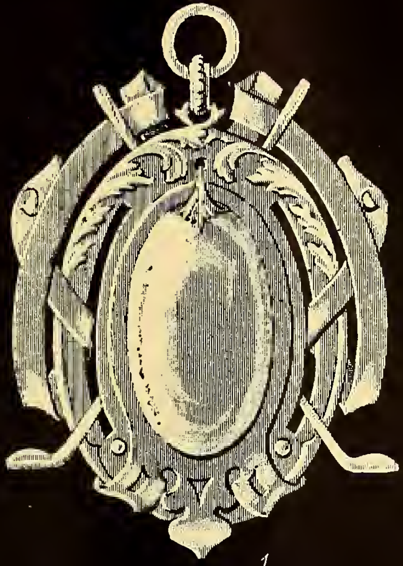
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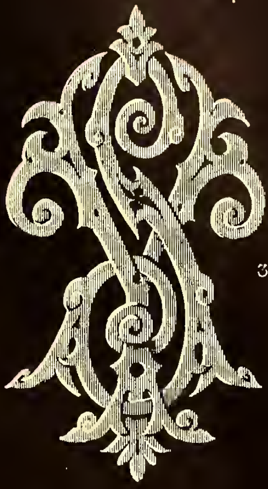
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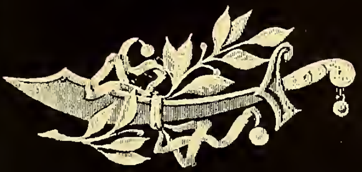
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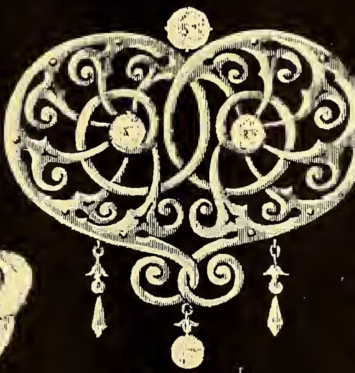
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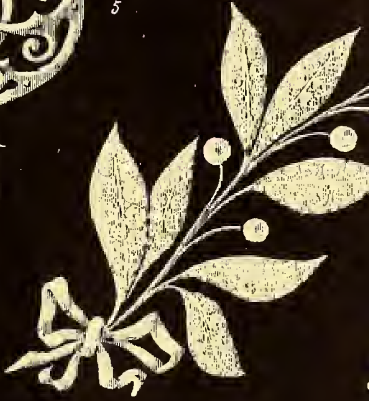
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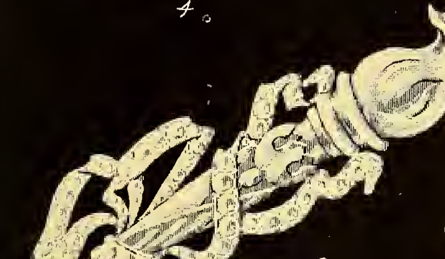
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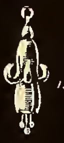
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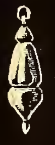
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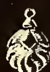
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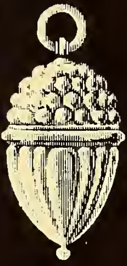
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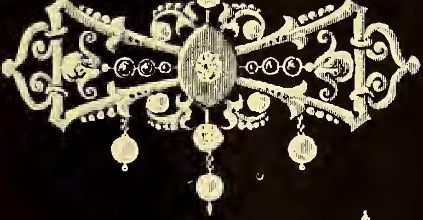
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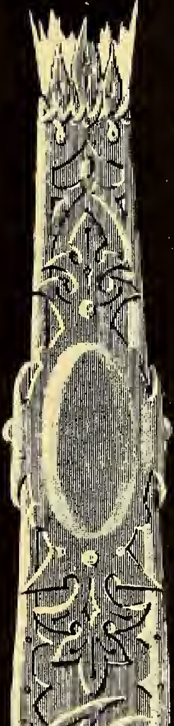
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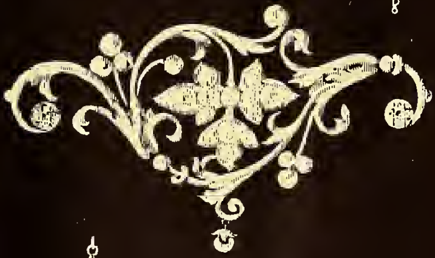
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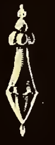
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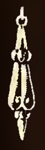
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W. Augustus Steward.

THERE are some symptoms of a return to large brooches, bracelets, and such like ladies' jewels, and some specimens lately displayed have exhibited a reversion as regards size to the productions of five-and-twenty years ago. It is a fact that in all branches the tendency for the last five or six years has been for brooches, etc., of a gradually increasing size. It may be assumed that the demand of the immediate future will be for something more conveniently large than is at present the mode, but I consider a return to the ancient monstrosities as entirely out of the question. The improvement in the public taste, although far from what it ought to be, will utterly preclude such a revival.

THE suggestion of Alderman Kenrick, M.P., that sooner or later the local association would seek to get themselves incorporated, is not at all bad, but it will be necessary for it to be much more representative of the feeling of the trade before it could aspire to such dignity. So far it only comprises about one-fifth of the firms in the trade, and even that fraction is far from being unanimous in its aims and ideas. For some time to come it will have its work cut out to increase its membership, and, by consequence, its local influence. The net gain of members for last year is only three, at which rate of progress it will be some years before the Association represents one-half the trade. In the meantime it is doing good work in connection with the Technical School and other matters, and it is not good that it should grow too rapidly.

THE students of the Technical School were very successful last season, no less than eighteen passing the examination of the City and Guilds of London. At the same time the amount of training which even the best of them still require is immense. The work exhibited this month is far from what it should be. The best pieces are a design for a watch back by A. Shuker, aged fifteen, and Arthur Hall; repoussé work by Arthur Hall, T. F. Ellis, aged sixteen, and a repoussé panel and casket front by R. Wright, aged eighteen. Wright also contributes a very creditable study of a pansy in enamel and an engraved lozenge-shape plate.

THE casket front, second prize, designed and executed by John Ravenhall, aged nineteen, is also very good, better, indeed, than the one which received the first prize. Of the enamel work, the panel by William Adams, aged nineteen, is much the best. The champlevé pieces by Frank Parkes are too brilliant in color, especially the watch-case back, which is quite gorgeous. As regards the patterns of brooches, etc., the less said the better. They are not good specimens of *technique*, and the designs are quite tasteless, so that as articles of commerce they would be useless. If the *work* were good the *design* would be unsaleable, and *vice versa.*

I DON'T at all intend to discourage students, but merely to point out how very much they have yet to learn, both technically and artistically; especially, perhaps, artistically. As a matter of fact there is little use in attending the Technical School without a preliminary, or concurrent, attendance at the School of Art.

THE Assay Office Returns continue to exhibit a marked increase, showing that the demand for hall-marked goods is still spreading. Travellers are all well aware of the increasing difficulty of placing non-hall-marked lines. To manufacturers who find a difficulty in hall-marking their goods I would suggest marking each article with the quality and a registered trade-mark punch. Under the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Act this would constitute a *guarantee* of the quality, and I think no one would incur the risk of attaching a false trade description to their wares in the face of the heavy penalty which they would suffer if detected.

OUR SPECIAL PLATE.

No. 1. Design for golf badge or medal, the whole to be modelled. Upon the ribbon is to be enamelled or engraved the name of the club or association. The scroll work could be either carved or transparent enamel. The centre oval shield to be employed for the inscription and winner's name.

No. 2. Design for monogram L B, to be executed in either whole or half carving. It would also be suitable for either engraving or enamelling.

No. 3. Design for similarly treated monogram for the letters S V.

No. 4. Design for scimitar and laurel brooch, to be carried out in gold and platinum; the leaves to be parce gilt: the blade of the scimitar platinum. The drops pearls. The ribbon should be dry color, and end in pearl drops.

No. 5. Design for brooch in enamel, gold and diamonds. The small dots on the outer bands should be in pink enamel, the triangular figures in blue. If desirable, pearls or diamonds could be introduced at the end of the scrolls, which would look very nice.

No. 6. Design for a brooch in gold, diamonds, and half pearls. The body of the flambeau to be in gold, the flames platinum, or the new enamel. The ribbon, gold set with half pearls; or diamonds could be introduced with advantage and good effect.

No. 7. Design for a hair or bodice spray in diamonds and pearls, the leaves to be in diamonds, the berries in pearls, and the tie in the new enamel.

No. 8. Design for a lady's fob chain drop; the cup of the acorn can be set with half pearls, the bottom being plated gold, or the characteristic rough surface of the acorn cup could be imitated and then enamelled in transparent dark green.

No. 9. Design for a brooch in the new enamel and half pearls or diamonds. In this the color is graduated from dark green to yellow, and from dark red to yellow, the pattern of the chasing showing through the transparent enamel.

No. 10. Design for handle suitable for many kinds of knives and other things, either as silver onlay upon tortoise-shell, for engraving on silver, or for stamping up.

No. 11. Design for brooch in the new enamel, half pearls, diamonds, and rubies, the centre leaf to be diamonds, the scrolls to be the new enamel terminated with rubies, the berries to be pearls.

Nos. 12, 13, 14, and 15. Designs for drops of necklaces in the new enamel, color to taste. No. 13 is a fuchsia, which should be colored *au naturel*, but the red should be transparent.

Messrs. Heywood & Co.'s Annual Conversazione.

THE second annual Conversazione and Dance of the staff and friends of Messrs. Heywood and Company, Ltd., was held at the Cavendish Rooms, W., on Friday, February 16th. Nearly 150 ladies and gentlemen were present, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The dancing was preceded by an excellent concert of nearly two hours' duration and was of unusual merit, several professional friends having kindly given their services—among them Mr. Frank Boor, whose rendering of Sullivan's "The Distant Shore" was simply splendid. The humorous part of the programme was ably supported by Mr. Alfred Mead, who gave "The Recruiting Sergeant" and "The Shopwalker," and Mr. Herbert Ling sang "The Seven Ages of Man" and "The Story of a Kiss. Mr. Alan Dale sang "Father, Mother, and I," and, by desire, sang "'E dunno where 'e are," in which he excelled himself. A recitation, "A Mother's Story," by Mrs. T. Johnston Smith, was rendered in a simple but effective manner that made it very acceptable. "The Promise of Life," by Miss Durrant, was sung in a perfectly trained voice that one rarely hears in amateur concerts.

The Editor regrets he was too ill to attend.

Transatlantic Jottings.

(BY OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

NATURALLY, the one thought and subject of conversation at this moment is the great question of the increased tax on diamonds. A slight increase was looked upon by many as disastrous to the trade, as it was confidently expected that the tax would be reduced. When, however, it came on for discussion, instead of a rebate it was absolutely increased to unheard-of proportions! and to what purpose, or for what object, everybody is at a loss to say. Diamonds are not things we can make or produce at leisure. It is not in the interest of protecting our home industries, as is generally pleaded upon the imposition of taxes. It is just throwing an unnecessary, unjust, and ruinous incubus over the neck of the businesses that pay most income-tax into the national coffers.

NATURALLY there have been many indignation meetings throughout the diamond trade, and many of the best-informed members declare that it just means absolute ruin. I hope that some definite stand against it will be made, and that we shall have this tax removed. There are others who say that after a little while, when people have got used to the new prices, as they always have to after the alteration of a tariff, things will go on just as before, and that the precious sparklers will be more sought after because they are more precious. That may be so, but, not being a prophet, I don't believe it. There are many thousands of people to-day able to afford, and do afford, a diamond or two, but if we increase the import duty to the new rate it will just remove the jewels to the floor above them, and so we shall lose a considerable amount of our diamond trade. I can only say that if other portions of the community will buy more diamonds just because they are dearer, then human nature is a very strange thing.

AMONGST the victims of the prevailing distress naturally jewelers are to be found, and that in great numbers. Still large collections of money have been made in sums from 500dol. downwards. The amount named was given by the firm of Tiffany and Co., but there are many others who have given 100dol. each. This refers to New York only. Similar unfortunate conditions exist elsewhere, and relief committees have been formed. Some of these have collected nearly 10,000dol., and all the firms and their employés are being asked to subscribe what they can. While I am writing these notes a list has just come to hand which would fill a page of your journal, in which I see Chambers and Co. and C. D. Peacock both give 600dol. The Elgin National Watch Co., Spauldey and Co., Hyman, Berg and Co., and T. H. Furber each give 500dol. Then comes a string of 400dols., so that it is evident that the gravity of the situation is fully realised.

AT the January meeting of the Chicago Jewelers' Association it was decided to call a meeting of the trade, which led to the formation of the Jewelers' Branch of the Central Relief Association, with M. A. Mead as president. The other officers are amongst the leading men of the trade.

FOLLOWING so closely on the heels of the Chicago World's Fair, a Mid-Winter Fair, with only three months to prepare it, compared with the three years of the former, would hardly have been expected to have turned out a success. Yet the Californians have cause to be congratulated upon what they have done, and people are flocking through the gates in their tens of thousands. A large quantity of the goods were removed from the World's Fair direct to California, where many nationalities are represented.

THE Atlanta jewelers, on January 17th, did what I venture to consider a very laudable act, and one which had they had recourse to in France, instead of working their assistants seven days a week, we should not have heard quite so much, if at all, of the curse of the future—Anarchy. On the occasion under consideration the jewelers gave a banquet in honor of their assistants, and in right good form it was served, and every one enjoyed it thoroughly. The Atlanta Association are just the men to do this. They formed their association to protect themselves against thieves and swindlers. They have felt the pinch of these evil disposed people, and are, therefore, able to appreciate good, honest employers. It is a move in the right direction, and I hope to read of the same thing being done in Old England.

OF the new enterprises reference may be made to the D. Lamon, Jewelry Co., of Denver, Col., who start with about 100,000dol. capital. Marchant and Co., Philadelphia, have been granted a charter, with a capital of 400,000dol. They will manufacture and deal in silver ware and jewelry.

THE *Jewelers' Circular* celebrated its silver anniversary in February with an extra large double number. They reproduce a page of their No. 1, and I think, Mr. Editor, that the strides that journal has made are unparalleled in trade journalism. When we read their first article on diamonds we cannot help feeling very old if that was written in our time, and when we read the journal to-day we almost feel we are living in the future.

IN this number a history of the various large manufactories and industries are given, with some wonderful statistics. That on the diamond cutting industry is very interesting. In the year ending June, 1873, rough diamonds to the value of 176,426dol. were imported. In twenty years they had risen to 1,066,586dol.

IT is reported that a new clock factory is likely to be located at New London, Conn., with a capital of 200,000dols.

THE Waltham factory shut down for a week for its usual stocktaking, January 27th, and by its inventory on February 1st found that their stock was practically what it was last August, so that their production has not exceeded their sales.

THE total assets of the Columbus Watch Company are fixed at 409,924dol., liabilities at 278,261dol. At an early stage of the proceedings it was suggested that the company should be reorganised. It is reported that it is to be opened on March 15th. The Waterbury is running nine hours a day.

ROBBERIES have been so frequent of late that one trade journal is content in publishing a catalogue of them, quoting names, addresses, and amounts stolen. One of the biggest descriptions runs as follows:—"Mrs. Jennie Langer, who keeps a jewelry store in Harlem, accused her husband of robbing her of diamonds worth 18,000dols."

SOME time ago I sent you word of a great diamond robbery known as the Knick diamond robbery, when a whole satchel full of the sparklers was stolen from a car, and how the suspect, "Fritzie" Dhein, had been allowed to slip; but Fritzie has been caught at last.

Sale of Historic Jewels.

Some very historic jewels have changed hands during the month, being those formerly in the old Eglinton family. The eleventh Earl of Eglinton, Lord Montgomerie and Kilwing, dying without male issue nearly a century ago, the family jewels were brought to the hammer of Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods. They included a necklace of six black pearls of remarkable size and beauty, set in clusters of brilliants; and a suite consisting of necklet, earrings, and brooch of pearls, rubies, and emeralds, formerly the property of Mary Queen of Scots, given by that Queen to Mary Seton, one of the well-known "Queen's Maries," and which came into the Eglinton family by marriage. There were also diamond earrings and necklaces and other valuable ornaments making up the Eglinton jewels. The six black beauties became the property of Sir J. B. Maple, M.P., at £3,450.

Another lot which evoked considerable interest was a necklace and brooch which, according to tradition, formerly belonged to Mary Queen of Scots. A sum of £365 was realised for it. A single collet necklace, composed of fine graduated brilliants, fetched £970.

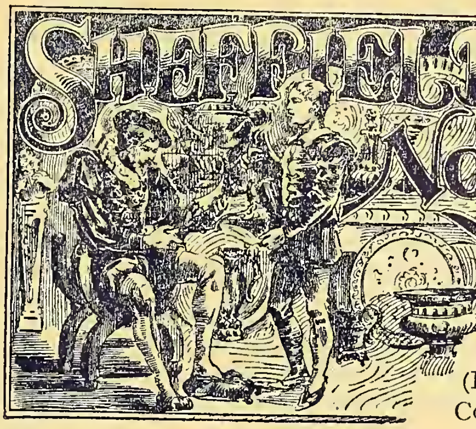
There were also some very fine examples of old foreign decorative silver, a quantity of old English eighteenth-century plate, and a collection of articles of virtu, including an old English censer, formerly the property of Oliver Cromwell. The censer is repoussé, with three scroll handles, chased with terminal busts, suspended by chains from dome cover, repoussé with foliage. It weighs 44oz. 6dwt. The jewelry included a chased gold finger ring, with a portrait of Louis XVI., composed of numerous rose-cut diamonds on dark blue enamel ground. This remarkable specimen of jeweler's work was exhibited at Hyde Park in 1851.

Lord Derby's Visit to the Prescot Factory.

It will be remembered that Lord Derby was prevented from attending the auspicious ceremony in connection with the Prescot Watch Factory last year, through indisposition. Recently his lordship, accompanied by Lady Derby, Lady Alice Stanley, the Hon. G. Stanley, Archdeacon and Mrs. Hornby, and the Hon. H. Walsh, Lord Derby's private secretary, visited the Lancashire Watch Factory. They were received at the works by the managing director, Mr. T. P. Hewitt, who conducted the Earl through the works, while Mr. Mitchell accompanied the ladies, Mr. J. Hewitt the Hons. G. Stanley and Walsh, and Mr. Hindley, Archdeacon Hornby. The visit occupied over two hours, and even then Lord Derby was unable to go through the entire works on account of the interest he took in the machinery section. The party expressed their pleasure at the visit.

The Popularity of Jewels in America.—On several occasions last year we had in this country gorgeous displays of jewels such as have rarely, if ever, been excelled. Our American cousins bid fair to outdo even these. On the occasion of the opening of the opera season at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, it is asserted that a display was made of upwards of £6,000,000 worth of gewgaws.

The Origin of Some Newspaper Errors.—One is often at a loss to imagine how some of the wild assertions which are copied from paper to paper originate, but possibly their birth is due to slightly cutting down or altering an originally loosely written statement. Here are two examples of parents which we are surprised to see in our contemporary *Invention*, and we can only account for their appearance by supposing the shrewd Doctor is prevented from attending to his editorial duties by the modern scourge of man—the influenza. Speaking of the Out-Ferrissing wheel to be erected at Earl's Court this journal states that it is to be 50ft. larger than the Ferris wheel at the Chicago Exhibition, "and will revolve at a very slow speed, about equal to that of the second hand of a watch." Now, as the second hand of a watch makes one revolution a minute, what is more natural than for plagiarist number one to state that the revolution is to be made in a minute, and for number two to indulge in a few figures at the thought of the rate 1,600 people are to whirl through the air. A few paragraphs further comes another astounding sentence. "Steel manufactured with 'Durol' obtains" we are told, "*the hardness of a diamond (!!)* whilst retaining its tenacity and temper." (The italics and interjections are ours.) What a loss this will be to holders of stocks of *boart* or the much more valuable commodity *carbonado!*



(By Our Own Correspondent.*)

A chance observation of Lord Wharncliffe, who presided at the last lecture in connection with Messrs. Mappin and Webb's Art course, has had the effect of opening the floodgates of newspaper controversy on a subject of considerable interest to all connected with the silver trade. His lordship suggested that art workmen who might have designed the work which they afterwards executed should be allowed to strike their own individual marks on such work, in conjunction with that of the firm for which they worked. As to this there does not appear to have been any difference of opinion, but in the course of the correspondence which ensued in the columns of the Sheffield Press the subject developed into a consideration of the status of the art workman in general. Some bitter things were written by correspondents who evidently did not speak without the book. It was asserted, for example, that many such artisans of first rate ability were not earning the wages of colliers, and the late Gillies Mackenzie and Alfred Stephens were cited as cases in point. The remedy suggested, however, viz., that clients who desire genuine pieces of art workmanship should give their orders direct to the workman, is clearly inapplicable to our modern industrial system, whatever it may have been in the days of Benvenuto Cellini. It requires a very large constituency to keep the huge establishments of Sheffield going, and the intervention of the shopkeeper is absolutely necessary to effect this. The ingrained philistinism of the general public is really responsible for the whole mischief. When the British buyer is educated up to the point of knowing good work when he sees it, it will then pay manufacturers to offer some inducement to art workmen to remain in the trade, instead of leaving it for more lucrative occupations, as they do at present to a very undesirable extent.

It must be admitted that some of the disputants went a good deal beyond the original proposal of Lord Wharncliffe, as, for example, when it was contended that the mere workman should strike his mark upon his handiwork. This of course is sheer nonsense. See how it would work in the case of, say, a teapot. There is first of all the brazier who hammers the "body" into shape. Then comes the stamper who makes the "parts"—that is, the foot, handle and so forth. He in turn is followed by the piece-worker, who puts the parts together. The buffer now takes up the running, preparing the way for the engraver or chaser, and the work is finally completed by the polisher or burnisher. It is perfectly obvious that no good end could be served by all these putting their individual marks on the teapot. All the same, although it may not be known to the general public, it is perfectly well known to every manufacturer that art workmen as distinguished from designers pure and simple are responsible for many of the best designs in the market. Although a recognition of this fact would, like some other things, "butter no parsnips," it would yet be a step in the right direction. After all we are much better supplied in Sheffield with art workmen of the very highest order than with a public capable of appreciating them.

A GOOD story illustrative of this is going the rounds just now, and it is none the worse for being perfectly true. One of our manufacturing princes, whose money was made out of the manipulation of harder metal than silver, was desirous of possessing a service of plate of a highly artistic character. This, he was perfectly sure, could not be obtained in Sheffield, and, consequently, had recourse to a well-known London house. The London shopkeeper was better informed, and in the ordinary way of business placed his order in Sheffield. The goods were ultimately delivered and gave unbounded satisfaction, and to this day their happy possessor is perfectly satisfied with his own acuteness in the transaction.

WE spend a considerable amount in technical education in Sheffield. The question is being asked just now—Does not the training of art workmen in the silver trade come under the head of technical education? To the ordinary intelligence it would seem to be pre-eminently so. And yet none of the money contributed by the corporation is spent in this way. The vast improvement in the general excellence of design plainly visible on every hand owes nothing to outside patronage. It does not follow, however, that it is wise on the part of the town in its corporate capacity to ignore an industry of such importance as the silver trade. There is plainly a desire within the trade itself for more artistic work, and a little assistance in the way of technical education would go a long way considering what has been achieved within the last twenty years without it. After all, however, the best stimulus to the production of work of the very highest character would be an appreciative buying public, and it must be admitted that that public is at present far too easily satisfied.

AT the dinner given by the Master Cutler to his workpeople, the day after the feast, a desire was expressed by Mr. George Howsen to possess in some permanent form a list of his workmen, with their length of service indicated. This wish has now been gratified, Mr. Howsen having recently been waited upon by a deputation from his employés who presented him with a beautifully got up album containing the desired information. The result shows that Messrs. Harrison Brothers and Howsen are no exception to the rule in old established Sheffield firms, where length of service forms a pleasing feature in the relations between masters and men. This no doubt has a good deal to do with the reputation for the production of goods of a sterling quality maintained by Sheffield, and it certainly helps forward very materially the movement in the direction of increased efficiency in the workshop.

THE firm of Harrison Brothers and Howsen, of which the Master Cutler is a member, is one of the numerous cutlery houses in the town which developed into silver and electro-plate concerns. The process of transformation is the same in every case. It begins naturally with the manufacture of silver cutlery, which is supplemented later by articles of electro-plate supplied by "little masters," until the firm ultimately begins to manufacture on its own account. This stage was reached by Messrs. Harrison Brothers and Howsen in 1879, when they bought the works in Shoreham-street, specially built for the electro-plate trade by the Brothers Johnson. Since then the two branches have been carried on independently of each other—the cutlery in the original works in Norfolk-street and the electro-plate in Shoreham-street.

THERE is, unfortunately, nothing new to report as to the state of trade. Travellers complain bitterly about the paucity of orders, and at home it is not considered worth while spending much in the way of the production of new designs in the present state of the market. The financial year of Messrs. John Round and Son has closed, and the auditors have finished their work. Although not yet publicly announced I have reason to believe that the directors will be able to recommend the payment of what is now becoming looked upon as the usual dividend, namely, 10 per cent. This does not look like bad trade, still they are beginning to grumble even at Round's. The outlook is none the better for the lack of stability in the coal trade. The public are now beginning to realise that the contending parties are as far off a settlement as ever, and to stigmatise the Rosebery conference as a fraud.

MARKETS.

Diamonds.

London, February 26th.—Practically speaking, prices are much the same as last month for the precious sparklers. All the rough that comes over from Jagersfontein is at a price regulated by the contract, which everybody knows. The most of the stuff being now turned over constituted part of the last two enormous deals of the Barnato syndicate, so that it is hopeless to look for a fall in these. With the pinch of the times parcels are offered every day at a sacrifice, but they have little effect upon what might be considered the actual state of the markets. Upon the increased taxation of the diamonds in the United States there was a little flutter, and many prophesied an early and great fall. But others, who have seen the alteration of tariffs before, and understand the nature of the diamond-buying population, are much less affected by the 10 per cent. change. Diamonds are luxuries, and the money-spending people buy them because they are so, not because they understand any of their qualities. Within the last ten years we have seen, I was going to say, numbers of 10 per cent. rises, yet what did they affect the market? A hundred per cent. duty might affect the market for some time, but it would ultimately recover itself. America, with all her mineral wealth, cannot supply diamonds, but her people will have them, duty or no duty. It is now estimated that America consumes about one-third of the output, and if it were not for the financial crisis in America the increased duty would make but very little difference in the market. It must, however, be borne in mind that for some months past, ever since the setting in of the crisis, the consumption of America has been very much curtailed, and if her markets are bad during the next month or two, it will not alone be because of the increased tariff.

Amsterdam, February 24th.—In our market the sale for polished goods has not improved during the month. It is very difficult to sell anything; the only things that attract the attention of the merchants are four grainers, if nicely worked. The general complaint just now is the increased duty in the United States, which at present prevents the American dealers from speculating. Rough diamonds are also constantly rising in price in the London markets, so that polished diamonds must naturally follow the same upward tendency, and therefore, although sales are effected with difficulty, it is not because the public taste for these beautiful luxuries has diminished. We now know that the fault generally lies, not with the London merchants, as we formerly thought, but with the *gros bonnets* (as the French would say) of Kimberley. The policy of these mine owners is past all comprehension.

Paris, February 24th.—There is nothing of any importance to report about the position of our place as regards the sale of polished goods. Trade is very dull, the South American business is languishing on account of the unsettled state of the country, the local and continental trade is disturbed by the doings of the Anarchists, who greatly affect even the gayest of the Paris seasons, to which time the jewelers look for their harvest. The winter season has thus been spoiled, and we must look in hope for a better spring and Easter. There is a movement on foot for all the jewelers to close at midday on Sunday, which is gaining ground.

Silver.

THE market for silver during the past month has been the very worst ever known. Starting at 13-16d. above the half-crown, it soon fell below 30d., and only once rose above it, and from that to the end of the month there was a continual fall until it reached 27½d. on the 22nd, and on going to press is 27¾d.

Tin.

THE downward tendency of this metal has been, if possible, greater than with silver. Opening at £71, it went gliding down the whole of the month till it reached £66.

Copper.

COPPER, oddly enough, has been just as steady, varying between £42 and £41.

Spelter.

SPELTER has been a bit choppy up and down between £16 13s. and £15 12s. 6d, but the alterations have only been small.

Quicksilver.

QUICKSILVER has remained at £5 17s. 6d.

Ivory.

AT the last quarterly ivory sales there was a much better tone, but prices were on the whole rather less. The American buyers for soft East Indian teeth were again absent, but the Sheffielders bought very freely. West Coast African sold well, in some cases £5 per cwt. over previous prices.

London Society of Goldsmiths and Jewelers.

THE first annual meeting of the members of the above society was recently held in the hall of the Club and Institute Union, Clerkenwell-road, Mr. Thomas Wheatly presiding. The secretary, Mr. S. Lowen, then read the balance sheet, which shows that the subscriptions and entrance fees were £486 19s. 4d., receipts from other sources £11 10s. 3d., making a total of £498 4s. 7d. The total expenditure for the year was £129 19s. 7d., leaving balances in the bank of £368 5s., in the hands of the treasurer £7 2s. 1d., and in hands of secretary 1s. The committee's report shows a highly commendable amount of good work done, which cannot fail to bear fruit in the near future. It also contains numerous statistics connected with the trade, from which it appears that of a total of 140 shops, there are, taking an approximate estimate, 1,426 males engaged in the manufacture of jewelry. Of these, goldsmiths number 559; diamond mounters, 322; setters, 117; polishers, 115; chain-makers, 63; apprentices, 250. Out of these 1,426 over 500 have joined the society. Subsequently Mr. William Partridge was elected president, Messrs. J. Angus, F. Aldhous, W. T. J. Broomfield, T. Colombo, Fairhall, Godfrey, Harvey, F. C. Henes, Horton, E. Henes, Knight, Moule, Neate, Wiggins, and Laroche as the committee, Mr. R. Lyte vice-president, and Mr. Monk trustee. The delegates to be elected from the four branches of the trade to consider the matter of the limitation of apprentices and the fixture of a minimum wage were agreed as nine goldsmiths, nine diamond mounters, five setters, and five polishers, and after other business a vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings. The meeting was then resolved into a special one to consider alterations in Rules 4 and 21, and eventually Rule 4 was left over until the half-yearly meeting.

A Jeweler's Window Smashed.—While a wherry was passing along Duncan-street, Leeds, on the 20th ult., one of the shaft-pins came out, and the horse, becoming startled, made a bolt. The wherry came into collision with one of the windows in the shop of Kirk and Co., jewelers, in which a stock of plate was displayed, and damage was done to the extent of about £25.

Coventry Watch Trade Association.

THE annual meeting of the above association was held on the 12th ult., at the Hen and Chickens Hotel, Butts, Coventry, Mr. S. Yeomans, president, in the chair. There was a good attendance, which included Messrs. J. Hewitt, J. N. Newsome, R. Thorneloe, R. Thorneloe, jun., C. H. Errington, C. Read, T. Kinder, T. D. Smith, M. Dodwell, J. West, J. Price, D. Cleaver, D. Hannah, J. Williams, C. W. Lord, A. Tebbitt, W. H. Lenton, T. Woodroffe, W. Woodroffe, W. H. Furneaux, E. J. Hollins, J. H. Barfoot, J. T. Cleaver, J. Brown, J. A. Jelks, F. Barnett, A. Gurney, R. Lowe, and J. S. Wilday. B. H. Franklin (secretary) read the following report:—"In presenting their report for the year 1893, the committee of the Coventry Watch Trade Association regret that the depression in trade, mentioned in their last report, still continues, not only in Coventry, but in all parts of the country where the watch trade is carried on. This has, during the past year, somewhat seriously affected the financial position of the association. The subscriptions for 1893 have through this cause, as also in 1892, fallen below the usual standard, whilst the expenses during the year have been considerably increased by the costs of the prosecution at Wrexham in March last, notwithstanding which your committee are pleased to be able to announce that there is still a balance at the bank to the credit of the association. In March last this association, in conjunction with the London Watchmakers' Trade Association and the Prescot Watch Trade Association, conducted a prosecution at Wrexham, in which case the defendant, who sold and invoiced a Swiss watch as a gold English lever, was fined £10. On May 6th, two delegates represented this association at the interview granted by the President of the Board of Trade to trade representatives from various parts of the country, on the subject of marking foreign goods imported into this country for sale, and the President promised your delegates that the Board of Trade would undertake prosecutions free of any expense to associations who produced sufficient evidence to secure conviction. The committee earnestly request the attention of manufacturers and workmen to the necessity of joining the association, and thus strengthen the hands of the committee, who are anxious to cope with any matters that may occur in the interest of the trade and to carefully watch the progress of any bills to be brought before Parliament which may have any bearing upon the matter. The total income of the association for the last year was £20 13s. 3d. (an increase of £3 16s. over 1892), which, added to last year's balance of £22 6s. 8d., makes a total of £42 18s. 11d. The expenses (including £15 14s. 6d. Wrexham costs) have been £36 6s. 7d., leaving a balance in the hands of the treasurer of £6 12s. 4d."

MAR 12

Mr. C. Read seconded the passing of the report, and said he was anxious that the usefulness of the association should increase, and that ought to be possible, seeing that the only object in view was to prevent the foreigner selling his productions as English-made goods. He believed prosecutions of offenders would do good up and down the country. Councillor Drinkwater, and Messrs. Thorneloe, Wilday, and Newsome, pointed out various benefits and uses of the association. The report was adopted, and the officers for the year were re-appointed as follows:—Trustees, Messrs. S. Yeomans and J. West; auditors, Messrs. H. W. Bamford and F. J. Stone; committee (half the total number), Messrs. C. Read, A. H. Drinkwater, J. Brown, M. Dodwell, J. S. Wilday, W. J. Oxley, D. Cleaver, D. Hannah, and J. A. Jelks; secretary, B. H. Franklin. It was stated that the association would be represented at a conference of watchmakers and jewelers to be held at Liverpool. Various discussions on trade matters then followed. Mr. J. T. Cleaver urged that some improvement might be made in the appearance of ladies' watches. Mr. C. H. Errington thought it would be wiser to teach the young men at home to respect the foreigner rather than to despise him, and to urge them to attend the technical classes. He also threw out the very practical suggestion of a local museum of watches, English and foreign, ancient and modern, for the instruction of apprentices in the trade. Watchmakers could not depend on a Merchandise Marks Act alone. (Hear, hear.) The Chairman feared the English trade had lacked neatness, and in that way lost some of the ladies' business. Mr. Dodwell was pleased to note an improvement in this direction. Some other suggestions were offered by Messrs. J. S. Wilday and A. H. Drinkwater (who complained of the "distance" shown between local employers, and of the way masters treated men), and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding.

Liverpool Watchmakers' and Jewelers' Association.

THE following is a short account of some of the meetings recently held by this active society. At the one in connection with the plate licensing question, under the presidency of John Bryant, the following resolution was unanimously carried :—"That this meeting of Liverpool watchmakers and jewelers are of opinion that the present working of the plate licence is a complete farce and fraud ; and should at once be abolished, or extended to all persons dealing in gold and silver articles, manufacturers and workers in the watch, jewelry and plated trades only exempt, as the exemption on gold and silver articles under the weight of 2½ pennyweight in gold and 5 pennyweight of silver gives an unfair advantage and privilege to any shopkeeper, hawker, or any person not connected with either branch of the trade ; and seeing the injury this omission causes to *bona fide* watchmakers and jewelers, we as shopkeepers and workers in the above industries appeal to the trade to forward their opinions to the Chancellor of the Exchequer at once, and so get this anomaly removed in the coming Budget."

At the meeting in connection with the hall-marking question, the Chairman (John Bryant) said that there were different opinions on the question of compulsory hall-marking. He considered it a protection to the public and a guarantee to the shopkeeper. He moved : "That this meeting is of opinion the hall-marking of gold and silver should be compulsory, for it not only protects the public, but is a warranty of the genuineness of the metal sold." This was seconded by A. E. Newcomb, and carried. Letters were read from several gentlemen promising to attend a general congress of the trade to be held in Liverpool. Mr. Bryant announced that the organising secretary was that evening in Prescot forming a branch of this association, which he thought would be a strong one, and a credit to the trade.

On Thursday evening, February 8th, the executive committee gave a complimentary concert in the Albert Hall, Cazeneau-street, which was a great success.

On Wednesday evening, February 14th, the first Tea Party and Ball in connection with the association was held in the Albert Hall ; there was a large assembly and some magnificent dresses. A. E. Newcomb presided. Dancing was extended into the hours of Thursday morning. On the following Saturday the Executive Committee met under the presidency of John Bryant. A. E. Newcomb, the secretary, notified that he found it impossible to complete arrangements for the congress on Easter Monday, because of the insufficiency of delegates and the shortness of time. He asked the committee to postpone it till June, when he could arrange for about 150 delegates. He had communications from the London Watchmakers' Association, who proposed to send delegates, and also from Mr. Edward J. Watherston (who was instrumental in obtaining the abolition of the plate duty), and also some fifty persons in various towns and cities promising to attend the congress if held later than Easter. On the motion of W. J. Blunt, seconded by Mr. Morris, it was resolved to postpone the congress till the first week in June. W. A. Newcomb said the necessity for such a congress as proposed was clear to all connected with their trades. No one could dispute the rapid decline in the gold and silver trade or argue away the various injustices and grievances under which they labored. They were burdened with licences and taxes which were of no protection whatever. Only isolated cases here and there were brought to light, while hundreds openly defied the law by the system adopted in retailing gold and silver articles. They had petitioned Parliament over and over again to either mend or end the plate licence, but only evasive answers were given, and he believed that a congress where opinions were expressed clearly and forcibly would have immediate effect in the right direction. Then they had the depression and fall in silver. Had the fall in the price of silver in any way benefited the public or the workman? It was a hard question, and required more heads than his own to solve. He was sure, however, that the call for silver goods was not one iota better than when it was at a reasonable market value. The sudden fluctuations were having a disastrous effect upon their trades, and the fact could not be overlooked. The fact that so able a gentleman as Edward J Watherston had promised to assist them clearly pointed out that reform in that direction was urgently needed. The cost of the congress would be heavy, but he hoped the trade would subscribe with a liberal hand towards the undertaking, for he was sure the amount of work and good which would follow would amply repay them for their efforts. On the motion of John Bryant, it was decided to make an appeal to the trade to subscribe towards the expenses necessary in carrying out the work of the congress.

At a meeting of the executive committee held in the Shakespeare Hotel, Liverpool, on Tuesday evening, February 20th, the following new vice-presidents were elected : Messrs. Thomas Field (Aylesbury), John Byrne (Liverpool), T. H. Chesterton (St. Helens), E. Powell (Chester), and James Williams (Liverpool). We may here state that the subscription for active Vice-Presidents is 10s. 6d. per annum, members 5s. per annum. The solicitors to the society are John Entwistle, 2A, Westminster-chambers, Crosshall-street, Liverpool, and Thomas Evans (Messrs. Herbert Lewis and Davies), Central-buildings, North John-street. The society has been established nearly six years, during which time they have had an uphill battle, but have always managed to show a clear balance-sheet. It is hoped this year may see a great accession of country members.

As we are going to press another meeting is being held, upon the important subject of "Technical Education," which we must leave till next issue.

Paul Jeannot's "Accurate" Watch.—We have just received an illustrated price-list of this watch, upon the production of which this firm claim to have made an enormous outlay : we should not like to quote the figures. We would rather say something about the watch itself and some of the special features claimed for it. We do not remember any other firm going in almost exclusively for a single article, but it would be far better if everyone could concentrate all their energies upon one special line, and excel in that, than to do as many do, dabble in everything, and do nothing really well. The amount of money and energy spent upon this article has resulted in an excellent English-looking timester cased in either gold or silver, in any weight of case ; some we have seen, made for South Africa, turned the scale at 4½oz. They are also made in nickel and steel. As to the movement, it is interchangeable throughout. The barrel is detachable, so that a spring can be put in without even taking out the movement ; in fact it is claimed that all the parts from the balance or escapement down to the screws can be interchanged. Gold cases can be changed for silver or metal, or *vice versa*, and hunters for crystal faces. It is further claimed to be a double roller lever Brequet spring, compensated balance, and adjusted to temperature. It is made both in keyless and key winding. As we do not admit any prices, we cannot quote, but we may just say that the price is lower than an English-made English lever. The most interesting point of this watch is that it is supplied with a Kew certificate bearing the customer's own name at only the additional cost of this document, or if the cost of the latter is an objection, the firm supply a certificate of their own which enters into details on the lines of the Kew certificate.

Death of Thomas Avery.—In the death of Thomas Avery there passes away a name which we can remember as long as we have been able to spell out the words on the old pennyweights "Avery Troy." The latter, being expressed in capital letters, was generally divided after the "A," and was by many considered to be some legal adjective. But all over the world the scales and weights of the firm of W. and T. Avery are known. The deceased gentleman was always spoken of as Alderman Avery. He was a magistrate for Jewelopolis, and the counties of Warwick and Worcester. He thrice filled the office of mayor, and during his long connection with the City Council he was mainly instrumental in carrying out three great public improvements—the purchase for the town of the Birmingham Waterworks Company's undertaking, the passing of the Birmingham Sewage Bill, and the formation of the Tame and Rea Valley Drainage Board.

Business Expenses and the Value of Land.—Some building land was recently sold in Cheapside which realised £35 per square foot, and some in New York at about £67 for the same number of inches. When one realises the increased wages, the less hours of work, the much keener competition, and then, added to all these, rents and taxes, in some cases ten times as great as paid by one's grandfathers, it makes one feel that the probabilities of fortune making get further removed as time goes on ! Look, too, at the amount of money one must turn over before profit enough is made to pay the mere ground rent on such outlays as the above. No wonder why we so often—as the years roll by—see large posters on the jewelers' shops along Cheapside.

Burglary Insurance.—In answer to many inquiries in connection with this, we wish to call the attention of our readers to the offices of Charles Allen, 110, Leadenhall-street, E.C. Through this gentleman assurances can be effected at Lloyd's, as to the safety of which we, of course, need not say a word, while the rate charged compares favorably to many other offices. We also believe that this is the only company that insures against loss by shop-lifting, which to the jeweler is a very important consideration.

A Tower Clock for Shepton Beauchamp.—John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Clock Works, Derby, have recently set up in the church of the above Somerset town a two dialled timester, chiming the quarters upon four bells.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Dyed Chrysoprase.

Sir,—I am a little disappointed to find that after you had so dexterously unhorsed your opponent with whom you ventured to run a tilt over the dyed cornelian question, and the clear and full accounts you have from time to time given of these stones, one of your contemporaries should in its last number inform its readers that chrysoprase gets its peculiar green from the use of chemicals. In other words, that there is no such thing as chrysoprase at all ! ! ! I think that in the interest of the trade, this scissors and paste business ought to be exposed every time it shows itself. Manufacturer.

[No doubt you are right so far as the scissors and paste are concerned, both as regards this "par" and the preceding one. It is a scandalous thing, in our idea, that papers should publish things which are so false that if they referred to individuals instead of the productions of the trade actions for libel would inevitably follow; albeit the damage in the latter case is perhaps more real and certainly wider than in the former. Of course the statement about chrysoprase is *absolutely false*. We have already described the composition of the stone, and therefore need not do so again here. We are quite as opposed to editors who do not understand the nature of either the matters they clip or of the trade for which they cater as you, but what can we do ?—Ed.]

Experiences of the Trade.

Sir,—I think it a useful idea of your correspondent "E." for the trade to publish its experiences. The Phantom gang suggested one to him, and an action for false imprisonment in Cornwall has recently recalled to my mind some of the many instances in which I have had to use great caution with suspects. One day a most gentlemanly fellow, to all appearance a German, entered my shop, to whom my assistant showed a tray of pins. It was not a large one, and their number was known, as they had been counted by both of us. Subsequently the customer stated that he saw none he liked and was about to leave the shop, when the assistant remarked, "Oh, we have a lot more not yet put into stock, which I will get you,' and ostensibly came to me to get them, but really to ask me for advice. We both knew the number of pins then, and we both counted them and found one short. I then asked: "Where is that pretty little pin I put on the tray just before the gentleman came in ? I am sure he would like that," while I observed the effect of the command to "make ready." Well, a hunt was made on both sides of the counter, and gradually we made it hotter and hotter, until at last the customer indignantly inquired if we meant to insinuate that he had got it. To this I replied I wished to make no insinuations, but only to find my lost pin, which I was sure he would assist in doing, and would not leave the shop till it was found. To this he protested strongly, saying, "Why don't you be a man and accuse me of it, and send for a policeman, so that I could prove my innocence, and make you pay dearly for your iniquitous accusation ? I protest against these insinuations, without being accused so that I can obtain redress; or to make a short job of it, search me yourselves in your back room." And forthwith he began to divest himself of his coat and waistcoat, and to turn out all and every one of his pockets, protesting all the while like innocence driven mad. The assistant maintained that he was sure that during the whole time the customer was looking at the pins he did not move his elbows off the counter, except that, in one instance, he took one elbow off the glass and rested it in his hand. Remembering this would not be a pose suggested by want of comfort, I directed my scrutinisers around his elbows, and in the cloth I saw a metallic reflection. He had evidently dropped the pin down his sleeve and then fixed it there by the other hand.

Next month, by your permission, I will recount a companion case to this. J. S.

Manchester.

Sir,—In response to the appeal of your correspondent, I give the following. I once had a customer with whom I became somewhat friendly, and this gentleman recommended a niece of his. This lady once brought a ring to be repaired, which was taken in by the assistant, and a receipt given for "an opal and diamond ring." As soon as the lady had gone he referred the ring to me, to know if he was justified in calling the centre stone an opal or white cornelian, as, turn it how one would, it was impossible to get the slightest iridescence. From its surface lustre I agreed that the description was correct. In due course the lady with her mother called for the ring, but when it was given to her she refused to take it on the ground that the ring she left had a lovely green emerald, a statement which was also maintained by the mother. The assistant then called me and asked if I remembered what took place when the ring was left, which I did, and repeated to the ladies. Neither of them would for a moment admit the centre stone to be the one that was in the ring when it was left. The setting and the two diamonds they were sure of, but they were just as sure that the other stone had been changed. To my great relief for the moment, they told me by whom they had been recommended, and we agreed to abide by his decision, as I felt sure from what I knew of him that he would see the impossibility of a change either by accident or design. The next day he appeared with the two ladies, when, judge my surprise, he maintained against all arguments that the stone had been changed, and that on the day it was brought to be repaired it contained a lovely dark green emerald which everybody had admired, since it was sent to them from Queensland. I explained to them that emeralds were not found in that place, but that it was the chief home of opals, to which he only remarked that that made the specimen of his niece all the more valuable, and had it not been for the friendly terms upon which we had been so long, he should certainly advise legal proceedings. And to this day my former good customer regards me as—well, I won't say a thief, but—one who changed his niece's lovely emerald for a worthless opal. Subsequently I heard that the marriage of the young lady turned out an unfortunate one, and this also is attributed to the ill luck brought by the opal, and consequently by me. R. D.

What is a "Carat" ?

Dear Sir,—Your many courteous and valuable replies to questions put by others have prompted me to ask if you cannot give us some information on diamond weights. You will remember that in your interesting review of Mr. Rennert's book on *Diamonds and Gold in South Africa* in the December number you speak of the error in the equivalent of a carat, which is *not*, it appears, 3·17 troy grains. Unfortunately that is the standard I understood to be the correct one, consequently I adopted it. Adopted it in theory, I mean, for practically all my gems are weighed by weights provided by some such house as De Grave. The result has had no effect on my finances—but still one does like to know where one is. I have seen the weight given as $3\frac{1}{6}$ troy grains, and that is very little different from 3·17, but then I am told that 150 carats go to the ounce troy, which works out at 3·2 or $3\frac{1}{5}$. Now, such a difference as that in these precious materials cannot be called satisfactory, and taken in connection with the wide-spread feeling that the carat weight is different out of England it gets one into an unsettled sort of mind. Will you kindly clear the matter up for some of us who are in the dark, and very greatly oblige One Who Desires to Know his Trade.

P.S.—I suppose the trade library, which doubtless the Goldsmiths' Company have *long since* started, has not yet got a copy of Mr. Rennert's work. Can you tell us where the special library is, that must surely be in existence for the benefit of such poor jewelers as cannot afford to purchase the books which bear on their trade ?

[Incredible though it may appear, it is a little difficult to define what a "carat" really is, unless we call it an illegal standard of no defined weight, used in defiance of the laws of the country. We believe it is generally admitted amongst a large portion of the British diamond trade that $151\frac{1}{2}$ of these units equal 1oz. troy. Consequently, selling diamonds or anything else by a unit of which there are only 150 to the ounce is obviously a clear loss of 1 per cent. We believe the carat weights supplied by Messrs. De Grave, Short, and Fauner go $151\frac{1}{2}$ to the ounce troy; at any rate, members of the firm have repeatedly assured us of this for the last twenty-five years. There is a fancy in some quarters for the American scales and weights, which we think are not the same. In fact, the carat is hardly the same in any two countries. The question is too large a one to thresh out in a reply to a letter, but we will take an early opportunity of doing so; in the meantime we might say that the metric equivalent of the "carat" in different countries varies—from Turin ·2135, to the not distant city of Bologna, where it is as low as ·1886, being a difference of some $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ! We know cute men in the trade who buy of one nationality in London, and sell to another at the same price per carat, and still make a profit ! This question is gone into in *The Manual of the Decimal System*, pp. 28, 29, 30, 42, etc.; also Prof. Church's *Handbook of Precious Stones*, pp. 49 and 50, and Jackson's *Modern Metrology*, p. 377. With regard to the other questions concerning the libraries we regret we cannot answer them. We should be very pleased to hear of the latter repository, which, however, we fear has no existence outside the mind of our correspondent. It is, we fear, an illustration of the fact that "ought," however strong its claim, never becomes a "must." The two libraries we use most for trade purposes are those of the Patent Office and the Guildhall. We don't think that Birmingham possesses such institutions.—ED.]

Legal or Illegal.

DEAR SIR,—I have in my hands a profusely illustrated catalogue of watches, clocks, and jewelry issued by a certain trader who professes to be a "manufacturer." I would give his name and address, but do not know whether that would be allowable or libellous. But it seems a scandalous thing that, notwithstanding the Merchandise and Trade Marks Act, such a catalogue can be publicly issued. On the cover are the words, "One of the oldest and most famous manufacturing firms in Great Britain." We have been in business over three-quarters of a century and I myself have been at the trade for over seventeen years, but never previously heard of this man. In his introduction he states, "before he commenced to supply the public with goods direct from his factories, the public were accustomed to pay many dealers and retailers enormous profits on the goods they bought. All this has now ceased; those who so desire can, by purchasing from ———, the manufacturer, save these colossal intermediate profits," and again: "The last, but not the least, advantage of buying direct from the manufacturer is that, making his own goods, ——— knows the quality of the materials used to be of the best."

"———, being a large manufacturer, supplies his watches in many instances at about half the usual price."

"For fifty years ———'s famous productions have been celebrated throughout the wholesale trade for their high standard and quality."

Then follows a list of Geneva watches, but all mention of foreign origin is carefully avoided. These watches are palmed off as "his" own make. "Only by the greatest exertion and enormous outlay of capital has ——— been able to produce this splendid timekeeper." I could give a sickening list of extracts from beginning to end of this catalogue—a list of what appear to me to be barefaced lies. Can no action be taken in a case like this? Is there no trade protection association which can prosecute? You may see the catalogue, if you would like to have it for perusal and will return it to me.—Yours faithfully,

SIMPSON YEATES.

7, Devonshire-street, Penrith.
January 11th, 1894.

Stocktaking.

SIR,—I have been overcharged by the Income Tax Commissioners for some years past. As I have not taken stock regularly and cannot show that item in my accounts, I can get no redress; I have shrunk from stocktaking on account of the great expenditure of time and trouble. The value of my stock is about £1,000 or £1,100; there are scores of items that I cannot remember the cost of. Will some of my brother readers kindly give me the benefit of their experience and say what length of time they expend over it? There are probably others who are overcharged in their Income Tax, because they do not like

STOCKTAKING.

Oxydising Watch Cases.

DEAR SIR,—Noticing that you devote some space to the answering of inquiries of your subscribers, I should take it as a great favor if you, or any fellow-subscriber, could inform me the process by which the iron and steel watch cases of French make are blacked or oxydised.—Thanking you in anticipation,

W. H. W.

Not All Music.

SIR,—Can you or any of your readers tell me the cause, and how to stop that grating and whistling sound that is so often heard in musical boxes after being in wear some time?—Yours, etc.,

JOBBER.

If "A Watchmaker and Jeweler" sends us his name and address we shall be pleased to insert the letters he has sent us, but we never insert anonymous correspondence.

Central European Time.—On the first day of the New Year Central European time was adopted throughout Denmark.

Coventry Watchmakers' Provident Society.

THE forty-ninth annual report and balance-sheet of the above society have recently been published, from which it appears the society now numbers some 266 members. The accounts of the sick and burial fund show that £390 10s. 8½d. has been paid in relief to the sick, and £37 at death; leaving the present value of the fund at £1,394 7s. 3d. On the management fund there is a balance due to the treasurer of 13s. 9d., the total worth of the society being £4,901 8s. 9d., which will give a good idea of the position of this excellent institution. The report states that the particular branch of industry in which the members are engaged is passing through a time of severe depression; this may account to some extent for the small number of members made during the year. The rate of sickness has been greater in extent than in any previous year, possibly on account of some of the members being far advanced in years.

Rotherham's Cricket Club.

THE members of this trade Cricket Club recently held their annual meeting and smoking concert at the Watchmakers' Arms, Hugh Rotherham presiding. There were also present Harry Rotherham, Councillor Corbett, and many others. The following officers for the ensuing year were elected:—Captain, A. Wagstaff; sub-captain, W. Woodward; hon. secretary and treasurer (joint), A. Taylor and A. Hyde. The Chairman, in proposing success to the club, said everything pointed to progress in the coming season. In reference to the formation of a cricket league, he said it was a good thing to awaken players' interest in the game, but they must guard against becoming too keen on the matter, as he did not think that league matches—at all events as played in the North—tended to produce all that the game was capable of. During the evening a number of songs were given, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

Technical Institute Field Club.

THE annual meeting for the election of officers, etc., of the Technical Institute Field Club has also been held, T. F. Tickner, M.S.A., presiding. There was a good attendance, and the offices were filled as follows:—President, J. Gulson; vice-presidents, J. K. Starley, and W. G. Fretton, F.S.A.; hon. secretary, G. F. Gibson, F.R.G.S.; treasurer, W. S. Taylor. It was decided that there should be representatives on the committee for each of the various sections, in addition to the officers, and the following were elected:—Botanical section, Miss Pingriff and Mr. J. Duncan; geological section, Miss Barnwell and Mr. F. T. Maidwell; architectural section, Messrs. T. F. Tickner and J. Stringer; archæological section, Miss Dix; and photographic section, Messrs. J. Cleaver, and H. A. Seaton, B.A. It was decided to issue cards of membership and programmes for the year, and the meeting concluded with the usual votes of thanks. The prospects for the coming season are in every respect cheerful, there being a gratifying increase in the membership—the present number being about fifty—and a satisfactory balance in hand.

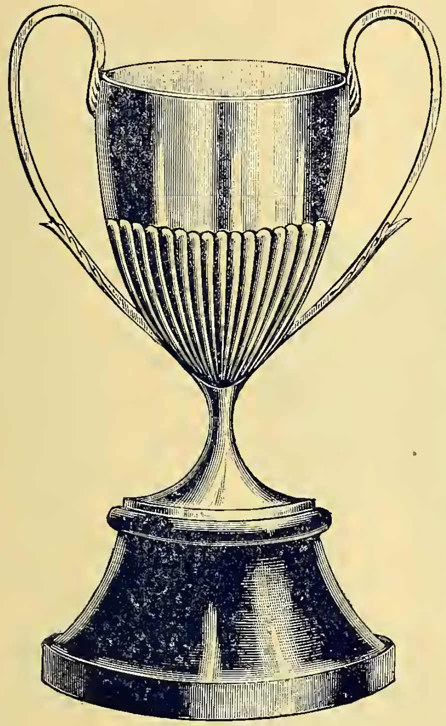
New Illuminated Clock for Stockport.—An illuminated clock with Cambridge chimes is to be placed in the tower of St. Thomas's Church, Stockport, in accordance with the wish of the late Mr. William Smith, solicitor, who was an alderman of Stockport and a member of the borough bench. The Rev. Arthur Symonds, rector, has accepted the gift. The clock will have three dials, each 5ft. 6in., and there will be four bells weighing 45cwt., the notes being C, B flat, A flat, and E flat.

Plymouth Co-operative's Clock.—The immense building belonging to the Plymouth Co-operative Society was opened the other day. The tower carries a very fine clock with Westminster chimes and automatic gas arrangements. The clock was made by the world-known firm of J. W. Benson, Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.

A Crown for the Empress Eugenie.—It is stated by a Parisian journal that Mrs. Vanderbilt, the wife of the New York railway king, has lately become the possessor of a tiara or crown made for the Empress of the French shortly before the year 1870. At that time the Empress Eugenie had two crowns which she wore on various State occasions, one of which had formerly belonged to a German Princess, and a second similar to that worn by her Majesty Queen Victoria when opening Parliament. The third was made to a special design by the Empress and cost £40,000. The crown, which has a round measure of eight inches, is composed of violet leaves of gold, in the centre being a bouquet of violets, in the midst of which are fifteen huge diamonds, the petals of the flowers being amethysts. Nearly two thousand stones were used in its manufacture. The majority of the stones weighed from one to eight carats, but the central stone was a particularly fine brilliant of 15 carats. It was never actually in the possession of the Empress, as it was not completed when the war broke out. In the course of time it found its way to New York, where it is said to have been sold much under the original price.

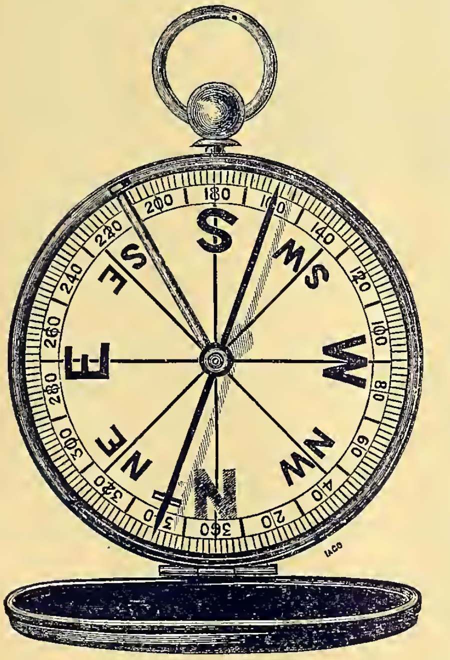
Things New or Noteworthy

A Fine Cup.



THE accompanying illustration shows an imposing silver cup nearly two and a-half feet high, recently executed by Messrs. Stokes and Ireland, 83, Great Hampton-street, Birmingham, by which we were much impressed the other day when we visited their factory. Usually we have associated this firm with charming little fancy articles of an infinite variety and fine finish at moderate prices, and we were therefore all the more pleased to see that they branched out into things larger than tea sets when required to do so. The catalogue which they issue contains an extra large quantity of souvenir and cased spoons, toilet requisites, match and cigarette boxes, muffineers, and cased goods of various descriptions, and things of that sort, which all would do well to obtain.

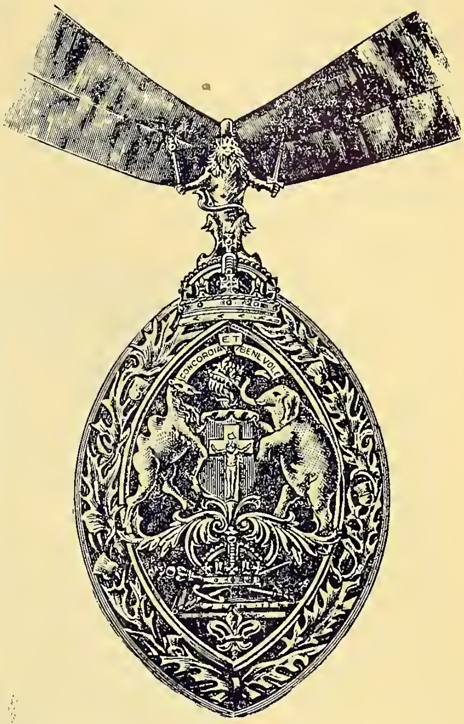
Improved Colonial Pattern Pocket Compass.



MESSRS. F. BARKER AND SON, of 12, Clerkenwell-road, London, have recently brought out an improved form of pocket compass, being made in a strong bronzed metal hunter case; the main features being the plain and bold letters on the dial, combined with great durability, which make it a very serviceable instrument for military or Colonial use. F. Barker and Son publish an illustrated copious and descriptive trade catalogue of the various compasses, barometers, surveying instruments, etc., manufactured by them, which will be sent post free on application.

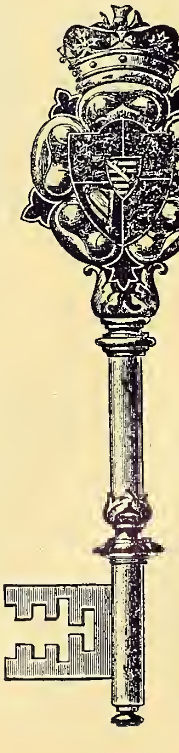
New Badge of the Provost of Inverness.

THE annexed block represents the new badge of office for the Provost of Inverness. The drawing is about half the size of the actual badge, which is made of 18-carat gold. The central portion contains a cairngorm, over which are placed the enamelled arms of Inverness, with carved and pierced supporters and crest, so arranged that the cairngorm is seen through the perforations. A model of the Scottish lion in solid carved gold forms the top and pendant of the badge, and the crown is modelled and enamelled. The border is formed of a mounted thistle-wreath, each leaf and thistle head being made separately, and in the top of each thistle head a small diamond is set. The back of the badge is engraved "The Royal Burgh of Inverness," with spaces for the names of the Provosts to be engraved. The whole forms a most artistic and heraldically correct badge. The order was obtained in competition by Mr. Donald Macrae, jeweler, Inverness, with a design submitted by Vaughton and Sons, Gothic Works, Birmingham, by whom it was also executed.



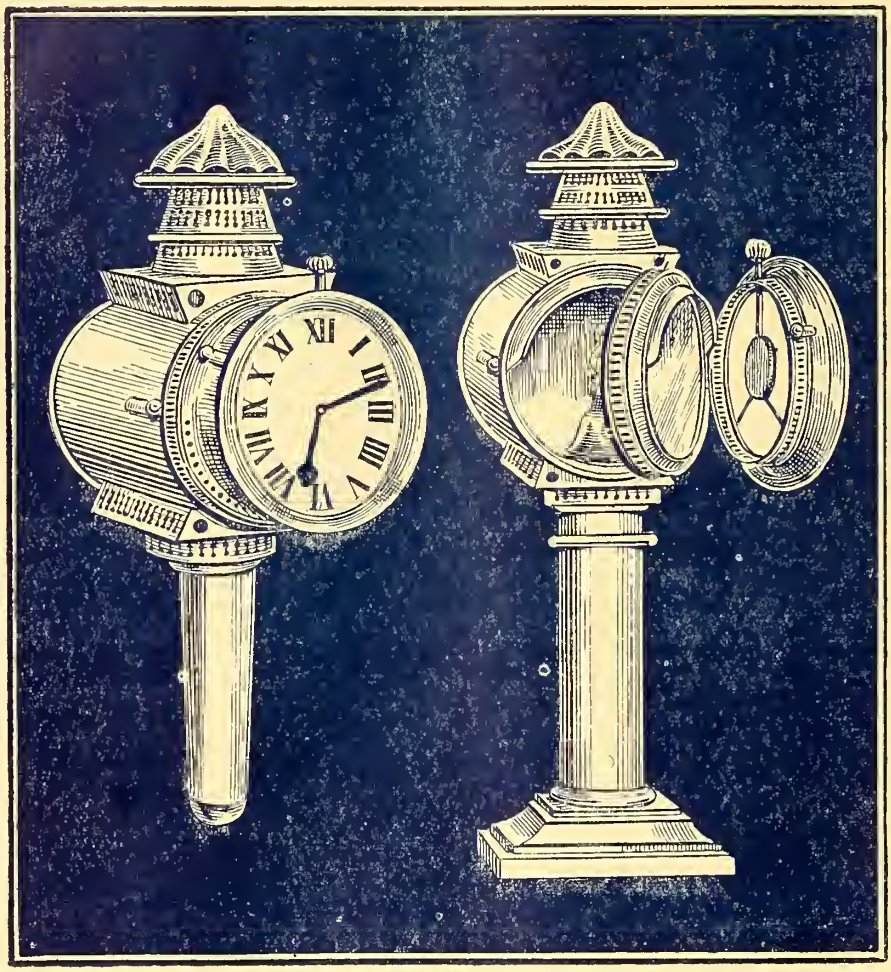
A Handsome Key.

OUR illustration represents the silver-gilt key presented to H.R.H. the Duke of York on the occasion of his opening the Technical School at King's Lynn, on the 2nd ult. The head or bow of the key is formed of the York rose in chiselled silver, with green enamelled barbs between the petals, and the arms of the Duke of York are enamelled on the shield in the centre of the rose, while the shield on the reverse bears the presentation inscription. The rose is surmounted by a model of the ducal coronet carved and enamelled, and the shaft of the key is ornamented with acanthus leaf ornaments, also in chiselled silver. The order was placed with Mr. Burlingham, jeweler, King's Lynn, and executed by P. Vaughton and Sons, Gothic Works. This firm has of late years branched out very much in this line of things, and judging from the numerous things of this description we have seen of their make we should imagine they are giving a great deal of attention to them.



New Illuminated Clock.

Numerous as have been the attempts to invent an ideal illuminated clock, all have failed to produce an artistic practicable article, against which a whole chain of objections could not be raised. Such being the case it was high time the idea was commenced *de novo*. This appears to have been just the conclusion to which Messrs. Stauffer, Son and Co. came some time ago, when they instigated a series of experiments which ultimately resulted in the above unique production. As an artistic and useful timester, it must be admitted to far exceed anything of the kind that has appeared. A glance at the annexed illustrations shows the principle upon which this ingenious combination has been constructed. When fitted all together it is a handsome ornament suitable for the most luxurious bedroom or boudoir in the land. In the chamber behind is placed a candle by which the dial of the clock is perfectly illuminated without casting any shadows whatever. It is thus an extremely useful article for indoor use. The upper part can next be removed, when it becomes a handsome and unique illuminated carriage clock. Should the illuminating power be required to the full extent on any occasion, the dial of the clock can be opened; thus exposing the full rays of the luminary. In this ingenious contrivance we have probably the best illuminated clock ever seen, in addition to several other articles never before attempted in one combination. Fig. 1. shows the clock complete as it stands in the boudoir. Fig. 2. shows the glass open as a carriage lamp.



An Extraordinary Success.

We recently read some announcements in the Swiss journals of so remarkable a nature in regard to the awards at the Neuchatel Observatory that we were almost afraid to publish them without first referring to Messrs. Stauffer, Son and Co., to ascertain if they were quite correct. Of the remarkable productions of this firm all are well aware, and we should be the last to say a word which appeared in the least to undervalue them; indeed, so great have been their achievements that they appear to have but small limit, and if one thing more was necessary to prove this, it is assuredly furnished by the magnificent success which they have recently obtained, the Council of State having upon the report and advice of the director of the Neuchatel Observatory awarded them the first and second prize for Pocket Chronometers (first class), and second prize for Pocket Chronometers (second class). Such an astounding result needs no comment, and shows the determination of this renowned firm to produce watches second to none.

A Spoonless Mustard Pot.

There has recently been revived, with all the laudations of a new and original invention, a mustard pot, which, actuated by a piston, forces the liquid out of the spout, thus keeping the mustard free from air, and consequently fluid, while it retains its characteristic color as when fresh made. Further, this pot obviates the necessity of a mustard spoon. As a matter of fact an ingenious pawnbroker's assistant brought out, and, we believe, registered, if not patented, the idea over twenty-five years ago. His pots were made of various designs, from a plain pot with a button upon the lid and a gracefully bent tubular spout, the end of which was just a little higher than the rim of a plate, where it deposited the pungent relish upon the pressure of the knob. In other designs more grotesque and amusing characters were introduced; we remember one in the shape of an elephant which by a pull of the tail deposited the golden fluid from its trunk. In another one a swan had open wings the pressure of which caused it to emit the condiment from its mouth. There was one which was a sort of happy family cruet, consisting of an elephant, a camel, and a terrier, with a rat in its mouth standing under a three-leaved palm. Upon the pressure of the first leaf, the elephant under it delivered the Colman's appetiser. A similar pressure upon the second caused the humped help of humanity to move his head up and down and so discharge mouthfuls of salt, while a tug at the dog's tail caused him to shake the perforated rat, out of which fell the pepper.

The swans, however, were the most popular; some of them had saltcellars in their backs. A member of the great Colman's firm once remarked that it was not the mustard that was used but that was wasted upon which they had raised the mustard town on the Yar.

The old hinged pot, which never closed, was always the greatest disgrace, alike to the hardware trade and modern civilisation. Every mustard pot top should be fitted with a lid as nearly air-tight as possible, from the under side of which should spring the spoon, as has usually been the case in the best pots for the last seven years.

Diamond Field Notes.

(By Vaalite.)

Kimberley, Feb. 1st, 1894.

At the commencement of the year it is only natural that we should do a lot of looking backward, in order that we may know how we appear ahead. The whole of the preceding year's transactions are reduced to figures, or in these days of graphic statistics converted into linear charts. The most important set of figures to which I would direct attention is that representing the total amount of trade done by Cape Colony with Mother Country. From information to hand, it appears that the business transactions of the former with Birmingham and Manchester alone average no less than £1,000,000 a month, which I think all will admit fully bears out what I have so often pointed out—viz., that the most important market to-day for British produce is golden South Africa.

While I am on this subject, I may perhaps be allowed to say something about our gold output and the rate at which it is flying at express speed past all other competitors. Indeed, as it passes the corner of '93 it has only one in front of it, and unless something unforeseen occurs, before we write the year '95 the Randt will be taking the lead a long way.

It is estimated that the world's production of gold in 1893 was £26,228,672, and of silver £16,354,490. In the gold Australia leads with £6,560,000. Then comes South Africa, £5,622,250, and then Russia, with £5,394,172. The United States claim a level five millions. The production of all the rest of the world put together only equals about half the smallest of these items. Not that there has been a great falling off in the other mines—oh no! quite the contrary. The total of the world's output of gold in '92 was $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions less than in '93, so that in many places there has been great activity. The Australasian product during the last ten years has increased 25 per cent. Dakota and Colorado have both made great strides during the last year; but what are they compared with South Africa! Ten years ago the Randt was unknown to the world, and when Dan Francis exhibited his first specimens in Britain, nobody ever dreamt the part that South Africa was destined to play in the future. It was not till February, '88, that 10,000 oz. per month was reached, and now in December we get nearly 150,000 oz., and when January's total is declared it will no doubt be quite that amount. Should the increase continue at its present rate, by the end of '94 the product of the precious yellow metal will equal a monthly output a little short of 200,000 oz.

Turning for a moment to silver, as one would naturally expect with the closing down of the mines, consequent upon the unprecedented reduction in the price of the precious white metal, the value of the output has been about $1\frac{1}{2}$ millions less. When the lower price realised is taken into consideration, difference in *weight* is even more startling. Next year it will be still greater, for the average of the year was about 3s., whereas this year it probably will not average above 2s. 6d.

We do not go in for silver, but we have other minerals in large quantities, which we hope soon to develop. Look, for instance, at what we have recently been doing to our (previously considered) worthless tailings—from these alone we obtained nearly one million ounces of gold!

But I must turn to the precious sparklers. Still, I wish all readers to see that South Africa is "the land of *Gold* and Diamonds," and that the king of gems only contributes a part of the wealth with which Mother Nature has blessed us.

Since my last the great Combine has held its annual meeting in Kimberley, at which, of course, some very important details were given, and it was shown how very much the De Beers were really doing for the development of the Colony. They now use colonial coal. They have advanced a quarter of a million on loan to the Cape Government, and advanced money for the making of railways and the general development of the north. The Premier's great speech also explained the exact position of the market and the circumstances attending the great "deals," of which I have sent you word.

It may be interesting for you to know that the Committee of Directors connected with sales have no direct or indirect interest in the diamond purchases. This allows the highest bidder to be the buyer, whether he be a director of the De Beers, as in the case of B. Barnato and others, or a Hatton Garden broker. There were several things which fell from the mouth of the Chairman, which show how much caution is required even with a thing as large and rich as the De Beers Combine. He dmitted that keeping up the price of the precious sparklers was by no means so easy a matter as might be thought, and one could not help noticing how great a change has come over his opinion as to outside mines. Only a year or two ago he was quite sure no other paying diamond mine would ever be found; but the discovery of the Wesselton taught him a lesson, and now he says they are all right if no other diamond mines are discovered which might recklessly flood the market. He is fully aware that after all diamonds are luxuries rather than necessities. More than once last year he admitted the demand at prices asked was so limited that it looked as if it was going to be all diamonds and no money, especially after the insetting of the American crisis, as the latter country absorbs about one-third of the diamonds.

At this eventful crisis the powerful Barnato Syndicate was formed, which resulted in the two large "deals" before referred to. But from what fell from the Premier's lips it was evident that the state of the market is by no means so rosy as some might think. I very much fear if even the astute C. F. Rhodes will be able to farm the price much longer. It is true, with their enormous reserve capital, they could go on for many months without selling a stone; still, should anything occur to make the English or American market worse, a fall in prices must certainly follow.

Owing to the completion of the Rock shaft and tunnel, more blue ground was hauled than in the preceding year. The average cost of mining and depositing has been 4s. 3d., against 5s. 11d. last year. A considerable portion of the West or poor end of Kimberley has been worked, but the returns have not been up to the average.

The magnificent display recently made at the Chicago Exhibition is now all returned, including the Kaffir boys, who are much impressed with what they have seen out West.

The Vaal River Diamond Company's directors have but a repetition of the previous sad tale to tell. For twenty months ending in August last there was something like fifteen hundred pounds expenditure in excess of revenue, to say nothing about another half thousand for depreciation, etc. They have been encouraged to hold on, first, from the discovery of gold on the Barkly Commonage, and secondly, because it is said certain reefs of the precious yellow metal cross through their property. But whether this venture will ever pay remains to be seen.

The New Jagersfontein output for December was as follows:—Increase of blue, 44,000 loads; value of diamonds found, £27,250; expenses, £15,750; profit, £14,800. Later:—The figures for the same mine for January are:—increase of blue, 17,000 loads at 1s. 6d.; value of diamonds, £29,000; expenses, £16,500; profit, £13,775.

Cum Grano Salis.

IT is bad enough when the bow is drawn so long as to necessitate the use of the above qualification, but in the following, which recently appeared in *Answers*, the modest rain would be of but little if any use. The article in question is headed "A Chat with the First Jeweler in the World," by which the writer means Mr. Streeter. It would be interesting to know to what extent that gentleman is really responsible for the statements. If they were of an opposite nature, we have no doubt the jeweler would enter an action for libel, and therefore, if such statements as this are given as coming from him, in all fairness, if they are not true, he ought to repudiate them, otherwise we suppose Mr. Streeter wishes us to believe them. According to the statements made, one would infer that that gentleman spends a great deal of his time in sale-rooms. Now, we would ask our readers who attend those places if they have ever had the pleasure of seeing him frequenting sales since he has been in business? Still he is reported to have siad :—

"I went to a sale at Christie's, one day where a lot of jewelry was being disposed of by some Jewish dealers. The latter were unquestionably skilled in matters relating to precious stones, especially diamonds ; and when I arrived on the scene they informed me that the greater part of the property had been sold. Nevertheless I walked round the auction-rooms, and casually turned over some artificial ornaments which had not even been looked at by the aristocratic buyers. Suddenly I picked up a pearl tiara, and calmly asked one of the Jews how much he wanted for it. He inquisitively asked what use I had for it, but the ornament was eventually knocked down to me for two guineas ; and I was then derisively told I could have bought it new for a sovereign. I simply took out my pocket-knife, removed the two large centre pearls, and then threw the tiara back on the table, remarking, 'These are fine gems.' It appeared that the deceased countess to whom the tiara had belonged had taken the superb pearls from her earrings, and placed them in the front of her artificial tiara. Naturally the Jews were greatly disgusted, and one of them subsequently offered me £800 for the two stones.

Good bargain, that ! but still better judgment to be able to recognise a pearl amongst counterfeits. But that is nothing of a bargain compared with the following :—

"Again, I once bought a necklace of 270 pearls for 27s. 6d. at a sale, after having noticed a $4\frac{3}{4}$-carat diamond in the snap. Every stone in that ornament was real, and specially fine, and I sold it almost immediately for £1,500. Some time ago, our Consul in Vienna went into a jeweler's shop in that city for the purpose of buying a small present. 'I have just received a parcel of very fine emeralds,' remarked the dealer, who knew his visitor well, 'but there was that bit of rubbish among them,' he continued, throwing down a stone of a somewhat light green color. The Consul offered £5 for the stone, and the jeweler was only too glad to part with it at that figure. Two days afterwards it was found that the gem was a green diamond of unrivalled brilliancy, and it was eventually disposed of in New York for £1,800."

But wonders are not confined to bargains; turning to the glories of the establishment, which we should be the last to undervalue, it says :—

"Mr. Streeter has a pearl fishery of his own in Broom, West Australia, and the industry employs about 500 men and twenty-two vessels of from 100 to 150 tons burden. There is quite a colony there, in fact, owning 100,000 head of cattle, and 750,000 acres of land. Consignments of all kinds of rough stones come into the famous Bond-street house every Monday morning. Last week eight bags of opals arrived, the weight being 20,000 carats. As I rose to go, I noticed jeweled watches, with backs cut from sapphires of a thousand carats; single bracelets, worth £5,000 each ; and necklaces and tiaras, priced at £20,000."

Rather unfortunate to speak of bags of opals and quote by the carat. Opals cannot be quoted by the carat *till they are cut!* And when minerals are coarse enough to be sent over in bags, they usually weigh something more than about 13lb. each ! and 1,000 carat sapphires are rather too valuable, bulky, and unknown to be used for watch backs ! Finally, to make first-class assistants throughout the kingdom dissatisfied with their modest £250, the interviewer concludes with : "No wonder, then, that this treasure-house, the stock of which is valued at over a million sterling, not including the strong-room deposits, should be scrupulously swept every night, the dust locked in a safe, and sorted with the utmost care in the morning, by assistants who receive £300 a year for this curious work."

In and Out of the Courts.

A False Telegram.

EDGAR H. GOODFELLOW, a jeweler of Leicester, has been in the habit of sending parcels of jewelry to a cousin in London to dispose of. Now it happened that in the same office as the cousin there was a clerk, twenty-seven years of age, named Davis, who was privy to the nature of the business going on between the cousins, and accordingly sent a telegram to Leicester, asking for certain articles of jewelry, to the value of £23, to be sent to an address in London. The jeweler subsequently found he had been defrauded, and placed the matter in the hands of the police. Certain of the jewelry having been traced to Davis, he was apprehended, when other of the articles were found in his possession. At the Sessions he pleaded guilty ; but sentence was deferred till the next Sessions, the prosecutor recommending the prisoner to mercy.

A Five-Foot Show Case and Contents Stolen.

ONE of the most daring robberies ever heard of was perpetrated on the evening of the 6th ult., at the shop of J. Badge, watchmaker, King-street, Gloucester. It appears that the horologer left his shop to partake of his afternoon meal, and when he returned, to his surprise and consternation, found that some thieves had entered and taken away bodily a huge heavy case nearly five feet high, with all its contents. Information was at once given to the police, who discovered the damaged case in New Inn-lane.

Trusting a Vagrant.

ON November 9th last, a man named Patrick Dorance entered the shop of John Austin, watchmaker and jeweler, Dalry, and presenting a document purporting to be signed by a collier named James Oliphant, induced the horologer to part with a watch of the value of 36s. Subsequent inquiries have elicited the fact that the document was false. Dorance—who it appears is nothing but a vagrant—has been traced, and awarded employment in Her Majesty's gaol for ten days.

Job Pawning.

WILLIAM DAVIS is a watchmaker who, despite his nomadic mode of life, succeeded in obtaining a watch from a man at Bracebridge, Lincoln, ostensibly for the purpose of correcting some small ailment. Instead of putting it into working order he placed it in charge of the knight of the three balls of gold for a sum of 16s. 6d., and decamped from his lodgings. He was subsequently run to earth by the police, and sentenced to 40s. and costs, or a month's imprisonment.

Window Smashing in the Provinces.

AS G. Abraham, jeweler, High-street, Southampton, was in his shop at about 7 o'clock on the evening of the 1st ult., he heard a crash which caused him to run towards the outside, where he found a man with his hand through a broken pane of glass, in the act of taking out a tray of rings. He quickly seized him and sent for a constable. A witness stated that he saw the prisoner with a stone in a handkerchief strike the window four times before it broke. Prisoner, who had been previously convicted, was sentenced to two months' hard labor.

"The Ups and Downs of Life."

RECENTLY, at the Lambeth Police-court, a case of a painful nature came before the magistrate, in which J. W. Fowler, a septuagenarian jeweler, who once carried on a large jewelry business in Kennington, was brought from a common lodging-house and charged with threatening his married daughter. He was remanded for medical examination as to the state of his mind. Upon the doctor's report he was ordered to the Infirmary, the old jeweler protesting there was nothing wrong with his mind.

Daring Daylight Robbery.

ON the evening of the 2nd ult. a robbery of a daring character took place at the shop of W. Anderson, jeweler, Station-road, Taunton. It appears that Mr. Anderson was in a room at the back when he heard someone in the shop. Imagining it was a customer, he went out just in time to see a man decamping with a case containing a dozen 18-carat gold rings and four gold watches, valued at nearly £50. Outside the shop the man was joined by a confederate, and they made off together. The jeweler commenced to follow, and cry "Thief, thief," but fearing that other men might enter his shop, he returned. The pursuit was taken up by a man in Messrs. Pickford's employ, but the men offered violence, and ultimately escaped. On the following day a young man, named Steward, entered the shop of Mr. Cockings, jeweler, Bridgwater, and offered a gold ring for sale. Mr. Cockings having his suspicions aroused sent for the police, who, having had information of the robbery, arrested the man, who struggled violently and made desperate efforts to escape. On being searched two gold watches were found on him. A companion, who was seen outside the shop, promptly decamped. On being taken into custody he remarked to the officer, "You are the jeweler who ran after us. I was outside, it was the other who went in." He was committed to the Quarter Sessions The other man has since been caught.

More Grab Thieves.

J. W. ROBERTSON, 27, has recently been doing a good "grab" trade in Newcastle. In one case he entered the shop of W. Maule, 77, Blackett-street, and three watches having been placed before him he made off with them. He also stole from Albert Kuss, 37, Shield-street, a number of articles of jewelry to the value of £30 and assaulted the assistant; for all this he was let off with eight months' imprisonment.

More Outside Cases Stolen.

ON the evening of January 13th, a show case containing a quantity of jewelry was stolen from outside the shop of Alfred Woollaid, jeweler, 26, Westbourne-grove. The matter having been placed in the hands of the police, resulted in the apprehension of Martin Hansbury, 60, a bricklayer, George Robinson, 26, a stoker, and John Sullivan, 23, a stoker. The prisoners Robinson and Sullivan had left parcels of jewelry with others to mind, but part of the proceeds of the robbery were found upon one of them. Hansbury was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labor and two years' police supervision, Robinson to eight months' similar employment, and Sullivan was acquitted!

He Kept Altering His Prices.

R. W. STANIFORD, of London-street, Kingston, is the happy possessor of a grandfather's clock, which might to all intents and purposes have been the original one that had "stopped short." The aid of the horologer, H. King, was called in, who, to the delight of the owner, thought he could adjust its mangled inside for £1 and was accordingly ordered to proceed. When he got the relic to pieces he found his mistake, and he could see a minimum of £3 10s. worth of necessary work. Having expended this value of toil without good result, he found sundry other things would have to be supplied, and when the job was satisfactorily done he estimated his work at £5. Now, although the owner had expressed himself willing to pay £3, he struck at £5, but he afterwards relented and wished to pay the £5 in order to get back the dear old "grandfather." But now the horologer refused to part, but upon what grounds it did not transpire. Hence the action for detaining the clock. Some very conflicting evidence was submitted, some estimating the clock at £15 and the repairs at £1, others £5. Ultimately the magistrates gave a verdict for £4 and half costs.

"Kicked out of the Place."

AT St. Helens County-court, on the 4th ult., Evan Roberts, jeweler, of Moss-side, Manchester, sued Frederick Williams, watch movement maker, West-street, Prescot, for the recovery of £10 in connection with watch movement transactions. According to the plaintiff's statement transactions had gone on between the parties to the extent of over £100. Defendant had given several cheques and by other means had reduced the amount. Some of these cheques were dishonoured, and in addition the defendant had complained that some of the movements were bad. Plaintiff offered, however, to allow £10 off the bill if he would pay at once. Defendant offered a cheque for £10 1s., which would clear off the account, but in the light of past dishonored cheques the plaintiff refused it, and suggested as the bank was near he should send and get the cheque cashed. Defendant, however, got irritated at the insult and kicked him out of the place. (Laughter.) Plaintiff denied that he had received any returned movements as suggested by the defendant. The defendant denied that he owed anything; on the contrary, the plaintiff owed him £1 1s. 8d. Defendant admitted that on one occasion plaintiff irritated him to the extent that he "helped him downstairs." After a lengthened hearing the judge said the plaintiff's case was hopeless, and gave judgment for the defendant, with costs.

Judge Shad Again Disbelieves a "Watchmaker."

READERS may have noticed that Judge Shad, of St. Helens, is very unfortunate in getting some of the most undesirable cases connected with the trade proceedings. On the 4th ult. Max Cohen, of Manchester, sued Joseph Critchley, of St. Thomas-street, St. Helens, for £3 13s., owing for watches received. Plaintiff said defendant had two watches, and had exchanged one, for which he was allowed £1. Defendant swore positively that he only had one watch. The plaintiff produced two signatures of the defendant's daughter, but Mrs. Heyes denied that any one of them was her signature. The judge took specimens of the parties' writing, but this did not satisfy his Honor, and as the daughter positively denied having signed the two, his Honor gave judgment for £1, the amount shown by the defendant's book.

A Farmer's Daughter Steals an Albert.

ANN SIMCOCK, 22, the daughter of a well-known farmer, was recently charged with stealing a gold albert from the shop of Jeweler Taylor. Although the vicar and numerous other inhabitants testified to the respectability of the family for the last fifty years, the girl was sentenced to hard labor for twenty-one days—rather stiff under the circumstances!

An Incorrigible Young Rascal.

THE boy Smithson, recently sentenced for a robbery at a jeweler's in Arundel-street, Sheffield, has, since his release, been at his old game and broken into several other places. This time he has got a more adequate sentence, his mother having come forward and stated that she had done everything for him she could, and could do no more. He was sentenced to 21 days' imprisonment, and to be kept in a reformatory till he is nineteen years of age.

Bravo Police!

ON a recent Saturday night, as a constable was eyeing the premises of Thomas Stockall, 17, Charterhouse Buildings, he noticed a light pass through one of the warehouses and reappear in a disused one next door. In this he entered and secured a knight of the jemmy, who had made his way into the empty house, and thence by way of the skylights had got into the jeweler's premises. A clock and several other articles were packed up ready to take away. The prisoner now awaits trial.

Robbery by an Employe.

IN the quiet little establishment in St. Swithin's-lane, under the shadow of the Mansion House, George Ford has grown up from youth to full manhood with his employer, John William Carter. Recently, however, the confiding employer, having suffered numerous robberies, began to feel a slight suspicion, which strengthened until at last he accused Ford of having robbed him. Finding his game was up the latter immediately bolted. When taken into custody over forty pawntickets were found upon him. The Lord Mayor sentenced him to three months' hard labor.

Obtaining Goods by Fictitious Cheques.

HARRY LESSITER, 27, was clever enough to obtain possession of an unfinished cheque-book of a San Francisco gentleman, on the bank of Ives and Allen, 99, Cannon-street, E.C.; and having paid a visit to Folkard and Son, King's-road, Brighton, induced the firm to allow him to take away a gold watch, upon tendering one of the above cheques for £8 8s., for which they also gave him £3 8s. as change. Twenty doors off he also obtained a bracelet, a ring, and £1 change for a similar worthless document. The next day the jewel buyer was apprehended in another shop, when the watch and cheque-book were found upon him. He now awaits his trial.

Sixteen Shillings'-worth of Gold for Sixpence!

ALFRED DAVIS, a young watchmaker, carrying on business in Cambridge-road, Bethnal Green, certainly had a narrow escape recently. It appears a man took a piece of chain to him—which had been stolen from a gentleman inside his own doorway when answering two beggars—for which the dealer in precious metals gave 6d. Next morning he took it to a refiner's and sold it for 16s.! The chain was traced to him, but as it was stated the police list did not reach him till too late, the magistrate considered guilty knowledge had not been proved, and discharged him.

The Wages of Watchmakers.—In his recent speech in connection with the formation of a trade society at Prescot, Mr. A. Newcomb said that recently he advertised for a man at the repairing business and the highest weekly salary asked for was 35s., and the lowest 12s. 6d. The man at 12s. 6d. per week said he could do pivoting, turning, jewelling jobs, watches, clocks, and even electro-plating and gilding. There was one thing, however, he omitted to state, and that was that he could tell lies also. (Loud applause.) If they could get men to offer themselves at 12s. 6d. per week it was good evidence of the state of trade and the value of the workers. It also proved the necessity of combination of some character or another. He remembered the time when they could not get a watch finished under £2, now he could get half-a-dozen done for that sum.

OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

BEARD, Francis Edward, and Fletcher, Thomas (Beard and Fletcher, trading as), *Jewelers*, 60, Northampton-street, late 23, Pitsford-street, Birmingham. The receiving order was made on February 1st.

BROAD, William, *Silversmith's Assistant*, late jeweler, 201, Euston-road, London, late 75, Lordship-lane, East Dulwich. The receiving order and order of adjudication were made on January 27th. The accounts show unsecured liabilities £197 2s. 2d., and net assets, £2 8s. It appears the debtor formerly carried on business as a jeweler at Burham, Kent. He sold this business in July, 1890, and in the following October purchased a business at Lordship-lane, Dulwich, for £235, with borrowed money. In August last the stock and effects were destroyed by a fire which occurred on the premises, and of the amount of the compensation (£300) received from an insurance company, he repaid the loan of £235 above mentioned, and expended the balance in payment of sundry debts and in living expenses. Since December last he has been engaged as assistant to a silversmith at a salary of £2 10s. per week and commission. The debtor attended the first meeting of his creditors on the 9th ult., at Bankruptcy Buildings, Carey-street, W.C. The Official Receiver, Mr. Wildey, stated that he had required the debtor to furnish certain accounts, and there being no quorum of creditors present, the estate was left in the hands of that gentleman.

CARTER, Frederick Joseph (Carter and Co., trading as), *Jeweler's Factor*, 89, Vyse-street, Birmingham. At the adjourned meeting of this debtor he stated that for nine years, up to July, 1892, he earned his living as a traveller. He had earned £4 10s. a week. He left Leeds owing about £100, and came to Birmingham with £150 in his possession in July, 1892, to commence business as a jeweler's factor. The deficiency of £1,200 which appeared from the statement of affairs had been increased to £1,600, owing to previously undisclosed liabilities. He denied that he had ordered the destruction of any documents by his clerk. The examination was again adjourned.

COHEN, Samuel (Samuel L. Cohen, trading as), *Jeweler*, 9, Pimlico Walk, Hoxton, London. An order of adjudication was made on January 20th.

COULSON, Jabez, *Jeweler*, 25, Baneswell-road, Newport, Mon. The receiving order and order of adjudication were made on January 26th. The first meeting and public examination have been held. The statement of affairs shows a deficiency of £110 12s. 11d. It appears from the Official Receiver's observations, that the debtor stated he commenced business on January 1st, 1889, with a capital of £20, which he borrowed. About eighteen months ago he opened a small branch shop at 196, Dock-street, Newport, Mon., where he traded for four or five months, but finding that it did not pay, he then closed it. He attributes his failure to illness of his family, bad trade, and want of capital. The only books of account kept are memorandum books containing accounts due to the debtor. He states he first became aware of his insolvency about six months ago, and has since then contracted debts 'amounting to about £4, which are still owing, hoping that trade would revive.

FURTWANGLER, Francis Adolph, *Jeweler*, 24, Green-street, Neath. The public examination took place on February 6th, at the Town Hall, Neath, and was adjourned, the Registrar ordering the debtor to furnish certain accounts.

GOTTLIFFE, Jacob, *Jeweler's Traveller*, late jeweler, &c., 65, Hope-street, Leeds, lately trading in co-partnership with Bernard Gottliffe, as clothiers and jewelers, at 87 and 89, Manchester-road, Bradford, as J. and B. Gottliffe, and the Bankrupt Clothing Company, and at 18, Wood-street, Leeds, as J. and B. Gottliffe and S. Cohen. The first meeting and public examination have beenheld, the latter taking place at the County Court House, Leeds, before Mr. Registrar Marshall, at which the debtor stated in answer to questions that he commenced business in Wood-street, Leeds, about five years ago with £50. About a year ago he and his brother opened a shop at Bradford, their father providing about £70 in stock. They traded there for two months, and then gave up the business. He had also carried on business as S. Cohen (the name of his mother-in-law) in Wood-street, Leeds. Eventually the examination was ordered to be closed. The accounts filed show liabilities to unsecured creditors £151 17s. 5d., and assets nil.

GREEN, Charles, *Jeweler, etc.*, 97, High-street, Andover, Hants. The receiving order was made on February 3rd, and the debtor adjudicated bankrupt on February 7th. The first meeting has been held, and the public examination is fixed for March 9th, at 2 p.m., at Council House, Salisbury.

LORD, Samuel, *Jeweler*, 5, Curzon-street, and 1, Croft-street, Burnley, Lancashire. The first meeting and public examination have been held, the latter taking place at the Court House, Burnley, on February 15th. In the examination the debtor stated that he had served his time as a watchmaker and jeweler. He started business for himself with a capital of £50 when he was just twenty-one years old. He had never taken stock or taken any pains to ascertain his financial position. If he included the £100 lent him by his father, he could not have paid his debts in full at any time since he started. In 1892, he said, he received £19 2s. from the auction of his stock, and with this he went to America, in the hope that he might there redeem his position and pay his debts in full. He worked at watchmaking there, but was not very successful, and therefore returned. Ultimately the meeting was adjourned.

MACKAY, John, *Jeweler*, King-street, Crieff. At the examination of this debtor, it was stated that his liabilities were £472 and assets £76. His liabilities include £200 legal expenses, incurred in a lost action for slander.

MILLS, W. H., *Jeweler*, formerly of 2, Old Market-street, Neath. The examination of this bankrupt was fixed for the 6th ult. The debtor files accounts which show liabilities £229, and assets, £88.

MILLS, Edwin Joseph, and Trow, William Frank (Mills and Trow, trading as), *Silversmiths*, 53, Northampton-street, Birmingham. An order of adjudication was made on January 17th, and the first meeting of creditors took place on February 7th, at 23, Colmore-row, Birmingham. The accounts showed liabilities £2,682, and assets £869. It appeared the debtors started business in July, 1891, at Hylton-street, in partnership. Mills brought in a capital of £100, £50 of which was borrowed money. The firm also undertook to discharge liabilities of Trow amounting to £100. This latter was part of the partnership arrangement, and it is understood the same has been discharged. In January, 1892, they removed to Northampton-street, and in April they engaged a traveller, by whom they sustained a loss in consequence of the small amount of trade which he did. Latterly they have sold parcels of goods under cost price for the purpose of raising funds. The insolvency is attributed to want of capital, heavy expenses and bad trade. Eventually a trustee was appointed, together with a committee of inspection to act with him.

TAYLOR, George Johnson, *Electro Plate Manufacturer*, late of Manchester and Birmingham. The Official Receiver in his observations herein states that the debtor started business in 1886 with a capital of £200. In December, 1891, a balance sheet was prepared showing liabilities £525 0s. 0½d., and assets £547 19s. 10d. In February, 1892, through a fire, debtor lost £150, but received £70 from the insurance company. In the same month the high bailiff levied an execution, and sold debtor's effects by auction. Since then the debtor has been engaged as a traveller for a firm of electro-plate manufacturers. The insolvency was attributed to bad trade, bad debts, and heavy expenses.

DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT.

BERNSTEIN, Joseph, *Jeweler*, of 36, Elm-street, High Town, Cheetham, Manchester, has executed a deed of arrangement for the benefit of his creditors, Mr. Samuel Lichtenstein, jeweler, 204, Cheetham Hill-road, being appointed trustee. The deed has been executed with a view to the payment of the creditors in full, by three equal instalments at six, nine, and twelve monthsto, be secured by assignment to the trustee. The unsecured liabilities are estimated at £451, and the assets are returned at £826. The following are amongst the list of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Nordmann, J.	London	30	0	0
Cartwright, Charles	Birmingham	41	0	0
Beesley, D.	,,	45	0	0
Cohen, Philip	Coventry	49	0	0
Crook, J. R.	,,	44	0	0
Hackett, Arthur H.	Glasgow	25	0	0
Lichtenstein, S.	Manchester	152	0	0
Bernstein, Marcus	,,	50	0	0

BISCHOPSWERDER, Max, *Jeweler* (M. Bishop, trading as), 73, Union-street, East Stonehouse, has executed a deed of assignment, G. G. Poppleton, C.A., acting as trustee, with a view of paying 6s. 8d. in the £, in three three-monthly payments. The unsecured liabilities are £2,814, assets £850. The following are amongst the list of creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Moritz, A., and Co.	London	39	0	0
Michael Bros.	,,	37	12	0
Willibald, Tweer and Co.	,,	30	2	0
Nordmann, G.	,,	102	4	9
Mojan. Manger and Co.	,,	93	0	6
Weil and Co.	,,	81	3	6
Blanckensee, M.	Bristol	48	18	0
Doverfell, G. A.	Brunndobra	61	4	0
Nathan Bros.	Birmingham	286	4	7
Ehrhardt, W.	,,	149	9	0
Braham, E. F.	,,	116	17	7
Griffith, H., and Sons	,,	103	3	6
Bottomley and Co.	Halifax	65	0	0
Roley, J.	Manchester	40	1	0
Batten, Carne, and Carne	Penzance	1,293	3	5
Gundell Bros.	Sachsen	53	0	0

BUFTON, John, *Watch Glass Maker and Lapidary*, 182, Warstone-lane, and 34, Caroline street, Birmingham, has executed a deed of arrangement whereby he agrees to pay 30s. a month to trustee. The liabilities are set down at £117, and assets £32. The principal creditors are:—

		£	s.	d.
Levy, F.	Birmingham	14	3	6
Pitt, A. G.	,,	37	16	1
Stainton, Joseph	,,	56	9	10

DREW, William Abbey, *Watch and Clock Maker*, Dartmouth-road, Olney, has made a deed of assignment, with A. G. Palmer, C.A., as trustee. The unsecured liabilities are £209, and assets £104. Amongst the creditors are:—

		£	s.	d.
Stockall, J. J., and Son	London	11	0	0
Simmonds and Co.	,,	10	0	0
White's Sewing Machine Co.	,,	17	0	0
Hesse and Co.	,,	12	0	0
Troop, J., and Sons	,,	15	0	0
Round, Samuel	Birmingham	10	0	0
Brockington Bros.	,,	23	0	0
Harris, Henry, and Co.	,,	24	0	0
Harvey, G. W., and Co.	,,	11	0	0
Drew, William	Olney	45	0	0

ELDRIDGE, Claude Charles, and Lyon, Harry Morris, now of 137, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester, formerly trading as *Manufacturers and Importers of Watches and Jewelry*, under the style of The Wholesale Supply Co., 46a, Market-street, Manchester, have executed a deed of arrangement, under which G. G. Poppleton, C.A., becomes trustee, with a committee of inspection. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £1,349, and the assets at £606. The following are among the creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Baer, Bernard	London	43	13	3
Mojon, Manger and Co.	,,	100	12	0
Hazell, Watson and Viney, Ltd.	,,	58	6	8
Browne, T. B.	,,	160	4	11
Fulda and David	,,	36	5	0
Lyon, Jos.	,,	20	0	0
Reading, J., and Son	Birmingham	23	11	7
Pepper, Payton and Co.	,,	21	5	7
Blanckensee, J., and Co.	,,	379	10	3
Levetus Bros.	,,	74	13	3
Barnett Bros.	,,	40	16	1
Hirsch, Pritchard and Co.	Paris	25	14	0
Lancashire Watch Co.	Prescot	86	8	1
McGlory, John, and Co.	Sheffield	25	14	0
Eldridge, Amos	Worthing	20	0	0

HIGGINS, George Henry, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, Church-street, Staines, has executed a deed of composition with C. F. Dean, solicitor, Slough, as trustee, with a view to the paying of 5s. in the £. The unsecured liabilities are £257. The following are amongst the creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Chaplin and Sons	London	32	0	0
Perrier, M. A.	,,	25	0	0
Grimshaw and Baxter	,,	25	0	0
Marier, Brusson and Co.	,,	11	0	0
Holmes, W. J.	Birmingham	51	0	0
Cooper, H. J., and Co.	,,	44	0	0
Tinte, —	,,	12	0	0

MAYNARD, John Ludley, *Jeweler and Watchmaker*, Trebowarren-street and Tuckingmill, Camborne, has made a deed of assignment for the benefit of his creditors, with a view to paying 6s. 8d. in the £. The unsecured liabilities are £155, and assets £43. Amongst the creditors are:—

		£	s.	d.
Roth, B.	Plymouth	14	17	11
Chandler, William	Redruth	56	9	1
Corin, Philip Burne	,,	14	0	0
Bankers' Claims		44	18	10

MEEKE, Alfred Searle, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 2, Fournes-street, Dublin, has executed a deed of assignment for the benefit of his creditors, with Edward Keevans, public accountant, 22, Dame-street, Dublin, as trustee. The unsecured liabilities are returned at £785, and the assets at £552. Amongst the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Dimier Bros.	London	150	18	2
Baume and Co.	,,	58	10	0
Ehrmann, B.	,,	29	18	5
Rasmussen, Webb, and Co.	,,	21	9	5
Sydenham Bros.	Birmingham	13	9	9
Alabaster and Wilson	,,	84	17	3
Joseph, B. H., and Co.	,,	43	12	1
Daniel and Arter	,,	25	0	0
Sydenham, A.	,,	17	3	11
Barnett and Francis	,,	42	0	0
Meyers, W. and J.	,,	20	7	9
Brenholz, D.	,,	24	0	0
Wolffe Bros.	,,	46	12	4
Pim, J. E.	Dublin	20	0	0
McCrossan and Sons	Glasgow	24	1	2
Wolfe Bros.	,,	15	10	0
Jerome and Co.	Liverpool	18	8	6
Martin, Hall, and Co.	Sheffield	13	4	3

READING, Alfred Samuel (John Reading and Sons trading as), *Manufacturing Jeweler and Silversmith*, 7, 9, and 11, Spencer-street, Birmingham, and Liverstone-road, Handsworth, has made a deed of arrangement under which Mr. H. Smith is trustee. The unsecured liabilities are £4,525, and the assets estimated at £4,231. The following are amongst the creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Bachmann, E.	Birmingham	75	0	0
Barker and Allen	,,	22	0	0
Bushell, T., and Sons	,,	28	0	0
Beesley, D.	,,	24	0	0
Corporation of Birmingham	,,	41	0	0
Danziger and Isaacs	,,	93	0	0
Fenton, W. J.	,,	22	0	0
Lawledge, —(Exors. of)	,,	600	0	0
Lees and Sanders	,,	51	0	0
Parker and Probert	,,	271	0	0
Reading. F. F.	,,	1,343	0	0
Round, B. J.	,,	36	0	0
Reading, John (Exors. of)	,,	2,170	0	0
Smith, Howard, Slocombe and Co.	,,	65	0	0
Westwood, C., and Sons	,,	45	0	0
Bowater, W. H.	Hockley	32	0	0
Dunn Bros.	Lichfield	27	0	0
Bankers' Claims		2,690	0	0

TONQUE, Charles, *Jeweler and Pipe Mounter*, 75, Spencer-street, St. Paul's, and 214, Borner's-street, Lozells, Birmingham, has executed a deed of assignment under which George E. Corfield, accountant, becomes trustee. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £551, and the assets estimated at £66. The following are among the creditors:—

		£	s.	d.
Spencer, Joseph	Birmingham	72	0	0
Lyon, Marks	,,	41	0	0
David, H.	,,	27	0	0
Wilkins, John	King's Heath	26	0	0
Lees and Sanders	Warstone Lane	66	0	0
Westwood Bros.	,,	63	0	0
Phillips, John	West Bromwich	50	0	0
Russell, L. G.	,,	73	0	0

WALLBRIDGE, Walter, *Jeweler*, 32, New Spring-street, Birmingham, has executed a deed of assignment, under which E. H. Durban and another become trustees. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £225, and the assets estimated at £64. Among the creditors are the following:—

		£	s.	d.
Wright and Hodgkiss	Birmingham	16	0	0
Proctor, W.	,,	15	0	0
Durban and Co.	,,	50	0	0
Loveridge and Co.	,,	94	0	0

WESTWOOD, Benjamin William, jun., 18, Nursery-road, Handsworth and Westwood, Frederick, 5, Alfred-road, Handsworth, *Jewelers* (Westwood Bros., 20, Warstone-lane, Birmingham, trading as), have made a deed of assignment under which G. E. Corfield becomes trustee. The total liabilities are set at £4,597, fully secured creditors at £400 and the assets at £1,000. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Whitehorn, Ernest	London	146	0	0
Mager, Max	,,	496	0	0
Triefus, S. and E.	,,	130	0	0
Necessian, —	,,	144	0	0
Ochs Bros.	,,	127	0	0
Ford, William B.	,,	50	0	0
Westwood, John	Birmingham	400	0	0
Davis, D. L. and Bros.	,,	146	0	0
Herman, David	,,	84	0	0
Spencer, Joseph	,,	35	0	0
Appleby, A.	,,	30	0	0
Hayward, G.	,,	73	0	0
Reading, G. E.	,,	114	0	0
Lyons, M.	,,	400	0	0
Westwood, Benjamin Wm.	Handsworth	2,500	0	0
Bankers' Claims		50	0	0

WHITE, John, *Cutler and Jeweler*, 68, Upper Sackville-street, Dublin, has petitioned for arrangement with his creditors. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £1,648, and the assets estimated to be worth £1,455. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Baume and Co.	London	14	10	6
Flynn, J. M.	Dublin	210	0	0
Whyte, Mrs. Frances	Raheny	1,160	0	0
Harrison Bros., and Howson	Sheffield	490	0	0
Brookes and Crookes	,,	120	0	0
Gibbons and Sons	,,	20	0	0
Siree, Colonel	Stillorgan	200	0	0

DIVIDENDS DECLARED.

ORCHARD, Alfred (Alfred Orchard Carter, trading as), *Optician*, 252, High-street, Exeter. Dividend of 6s. 4¾d. at Official Receiver's, Exeter, February 23rd.

CARTER, Frederick Joseph, (Carter and Co., trading as), *Jeweler's Factor*, 89, Vyse-street, Birmingham, and 102, Thornhill-road, Handsworth. First of 2s. 6d. at 57, Colmore-row, Birmingham, February 7th.

COLLINS, Henry Gould, and Collins, William Wilson (H. G. Collins and Co., trading as), *Art Jewelers and Silversmiths*, 29, King's-road, Brighton. Dividend of 20s. at Official Receiver's, Brighton, February 5th.

RAILTON, William, *Jeweler and General Factor*, 70, Eastbourne-street, and 9, Church-lane, Liverpool. First dividend of 2s. 8d. at 120, Colmore-row, Birmingham, February 23rd.

APPLICATIONS FOR DISCHARGE, &c.

ARONSBERG, William, *Optician*, 251, Upper Brook-street, and 12, Victoria-street, Manchester. Application for discharge : Court-house, Manchester, March 7th, at 10

BLYTH, Henry John, *Watchmaker*, 13, St. Nicholas'-terrace, Caister-road, Great Yarmouth. Discharge granted, January 12th, 1894, as from January 12th, 1896.

DISSOLUTIONS OF PARTNERSHIP.

OSBORNE and Gall, *Pawnbrokers, Jewelers, and Silversmiths*, 264, Strand. January 30th. Debts by Henry Osborne.

BERRY and Austin, *Watchmakers, Jewelers, and Silversmiths*. 100, Park-street, Gloucester-gate, Regent's-park, and Olympia, Addison-road, *Fancy Goods Salesmen*. February 9th. George Compton Austin continues the Park-street business under the same style, and Walter Berry continues the Olympia business in his own name.

* * *

A Combine in the Cycle Trade.—A company has been formed with £175,000 capital in £1 shares, to acquire and take over as going concerns all or any of the following businesses and undertakings :—(1) R. F. Hall Manufacturing Company, Limited, (2) Thomas Warwick and Sons, Limited, (3) Hudson and Co., Limited, and (4) Westwood Wheel Company, Limited ; and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in the various component parts of cycles, bicycles, tricycles, velocipedes, carriages of all kinds, and sewing machines. The first directors are Messrs. Harvey du Cros, Arthur du Cros, Frederick Warwick, Walter Evans, and R. F. Hall. Qualification £1,000 ; remuneration £200 each per annum ; extra £200 for the Chairman, and such other sums as may be voted by the shareholders in annual meeting.

An Electric-light Watch-stand.—Robertson and Co., 234, Sauchiehall-street, Glasgow, have brought out a watch stand of somewhat architectural construction, something approaching a clock case: in this are placed three dry cells, which furnish the current for a small electric lamp suspended in front of the stand, upon which is hung the timester. A long silk cord with a handle is attached, and when it is desired to see the time a button at the end of the handle is pressed, which causes the lamp to glow. The "lamps" vary in the time they last, but are guaranteed for a minimum of three months, and the cells can be easily recharged.

Helston Mayoral Chain.—The committee appointed to obtain the above civic ornament have had a rather unusual experience, for so many have come forward ready to present sets of links in memory of their departed friends connected with town matters that it has been found necessary to add a festoon to the chain to take them all. How very different from what is usually the case ! We have known lots of cases where the matter has had to be left month after month, and finally the civic ornament completed with a piece of ribbon.

A Useful Idea for Catalogues.—Who that has had experience in ordering goods from a trade catalogue through the post could not tell of sad and annoying mistakes that have been made ? No doubt the system of numbering articles is very useful and works fairly well, but this is not sufficient. Recently we saw a catalogue (not of jewelry) in which a code word was fixed to every article, and in the preface a further code was given for business phrases. For example, "Alcide forward sadid wrep," would mean "In how long can you make six dozen and a half ladies' sapphire and diamond rings of a special pattern and price in your catalogue, wire reply." A little reflection will suggest numerous advantages from the adoption of such an idea, and we recommend it to the notice of our wholesale readers, as it will not only assist to avoid mistakes, but in cases of "wires" the cost will be reduced to a fraction of the present expense, beside securing absolute secrecy. A code could be constructed in which the words only consisted of three letters, or certainly four, which would be sufficient for most houses, and often two or even three of these could pass through the telegraph office for one word. This would also be found of great use for jewelers in the country when they send home for goods in a hurry by wire.

Church Bells.—At a recent meeting of the British Archæological Association, Dr. Fryer rendered a description of the casting of the bells of Llantrissant Church, South Wales, in the tower of the church in 1718. This led to a discussion with respect to the casting bells on the spot by various itinerant bell founders, and many instances were reported. Among these, Mr. E. Way described the Bell Pit Field at Templeton, near Tiverton, where the church bells are believed to have been made. This is extremely interesting, and if any readers are aware of any cases of the kind, we should be very glad to hear of them.

Silver Cradles.—What a number of mayors were blessed with offsprings last year ! The custom of presenting a silver cradle on such occasions is a very commendable one, firstly and principally, because it gives silversmiths something to do, and, secondly, because it is an excuse for another feast, as the presentation usually takes place in the following year. Amongst the recent recipients of these honors were the ex-mayor of Rochester, Mr. F. P. Smith, and the ex-mayor of Pembroke. In the latter case the cradle and stand were silver and gilt inside. They weigh over 50oz., and may be called a fine specimen of chasing. On one side is Pembroke Castle, and on the other a suitable inscription.

Still They Come.—This well-known exclamation may well be used in connection with the minor planets, as almost every month one or two are added to the list. On the night of January 29th, M. Charlois, at Nice, discovered two more small ones, which we believe raises the number to 384. No less than two of these miniature worlds have been discovered since November, 1892, when No. 344 was discovered by the same observer. This has since been called Desiderata.

Trade Fraternity in Aberdeen.—The annual re-union of the Aberdeen watchmakers and jewelers was held on the evening of the 7th ult., in the Accord Hotel. Early in the evening a company numbering nearly 200 sat down to tea, under the presidency of Mr. Alexander Smith (Messrs. A. and J. Smith), who, in opening the programme, congratulated the trade on the fact that several employers had already adopted the early closing movement, and expressed the hope that at no distant date the benefit would be extended to all in the trade. He advised the youths in the trade to study not only what is now considered their own business, but to take every opportunity of obtaining a thorough knowledge of electrical work. An exceedingly enjoyable concert and dance followed.

Twenty-four Hour Notation.—Every now and then fresh champions of this system come forward and point out its benefits. There has been quite a number of letters and articles upon the subject recently throughout the country, and it really appears within ordinary probabilities that the system will become universal before very long. Several countries have adopted it, but, as usual, we are the last to move. Still, should our railways adopt it like others have done, as it is advocated that they should, it would quickly be adopted generally. In countries which have this notation the ordinary dials of clocks and watches are retained, but another set of red figures is painted inside the first twelve, numbering from thirteen to twenty-four. Could not some ingenious horologer make a clock which showed the figures through escutcheons, so that every time the hour hand reached twelve it would move the hour circle first forward then backward, so as to show one to twelve the first revolution, then thirteen to twenty-four the next, then back again to the first set ?

The
Watchmaker, Jeweler and Silversmith.

Edited by W. J. LEWIS ABBOTT, F.G.S.

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IN THE INTERESTS OF THE TRADE.

NO CUTTING PRICES!

Cutting prices are not allowed to be advertised in this Journal; and no prices of any kind can be permitted to appear except such as come under the following headings:—

(1) Retail or selling prices to the public.

(2) The prices of patented or registered articles, or special articles manufactured and sold by one firm alone.

(3) The prices of outfits, plants, tools, instruments, materials, publications, &c., intended for, or used by the trade.

The kindly co-operation of all advertisers is invited.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The Annual Subscription throughout the World is 5s., including postage; and it is payable in all cases in advance. Single current numbers are charged at 6d. each, 7½d. by post.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—There is a fixed printed tariff for trade advertisements, which will be forwarded on application. All prepaid situation and similar advertisements are inserted at 6d. per line (minimum 1s.). Name and Address in the Buyers' Guide, One Guinea per annum, payable in advance.

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS.—Manuscripts should be written clearly on one side of the paper only, and should in every case be accompanied by the name and address of the sender; where payment is expected, a definite statement to that effect should be made. The Editor cannot be responsible for missing MSS., but every care will be taken of copy submitted for consideration.

INQUIRIES.—Information is given, whenever possible, to inquirers, who are requested to assist by giving the fullest details of the matters to which their questions relate. In special cases replies will be given through the post, and for this purpose addressed and stamped envelopes must be supplied.

PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, & DESIGNS.—Arrangements have been made with an expert whereby subscribers to this journal can receive information respecting these free of charge. Letters of inquiry must be addressed to the Editor of The Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith, Patents, Trade Marks, and Design Department, 150, Holborn, London, E.C., and must in every case contain stamped and directed envelope for reply.

NOTICE OF OUR REMOVAL.

We are pleased to inform our readers that our business has entirely outgrown the room afforded by the offices at 68, Fleet-street. We have now moved to 150, Holborn, E.C., corner of Gray's Inn-road, so that we are much nearer the trade colony, in fact as near it as we could get.

ENTRE NOUS
HARPOCRATES.

By the Editor.

WATCHMAKING AT PRESCOT.

Elsewhere in our pages we report somewhat fully the account of the last annual meeting of the Lancashire Watch Co. Those who have a spark of patriotism will read it with great interest, not unmixed with pleasure. We must say that we are agreeably surprised at the figures. When we realise how few great and going concerns have, during the last twelve months, been able to pay more than 5 per cent., to find that this struggling concern with all the uphill difficulties of development to contend against, has paid 6 per cent. on both ordinary and preferential shares, makes one feel that either watchmaking is by no means so played out as some would try and make us believe, or that things are being managed at Prescot in a most extraordinary manner. Apparently the shareholders think both conditions hold good. As to the former, manager T. P. Hewitt says, the world consumes 10,000,000 watches a year. We admit these are long figures, and should like to know whence they are obtained. But whether it is half or double that amount one fact is patent, that the sales effected by the company during the year amounted to £23,795. It may, perhaps, be said, this is not an extravagant turnover with a capital of some hundred and thirteen thousand pounds, still it has been deemed sufficient to declare a 6 per cent. dividend all round. It is true the balance carried forward is an extremely small one, far too small in our way of thinking, and we cannot help feeling that the proposition of a shareholder to pay 5 per cent. on ordinary shares would only have been improved by a five per cent. all round. It is all very nice to be able to announce big dividends, but that is not the only thing which constitutes a going and lasting concern. Five per cent. in these dreadfully hard times would have fully realised all we should have expected from this company under existing circumstances. It is a matter of great regret that of the £55,000 additional capital asked for by the able managing director £39,000 is yet unsubscribed, and we hope to be shortly in a position to state that a large portion of this has been taken up. A large trade cannot be done on small capital in these days, and when we hear a shareholder suggest making a reformation in the trade custom of payments, we cannot help smiling. If that gentleman could tell us how it could be done, he would be canonised before he died, and would become the patron saint of commerce. There was another item which struck us as being somewhat small—indeed under some circumstances it would have been ridiculously so—viz. £500 for depreciation : and there is yet another item which is often very different on paper from its actual gold equivalent—that is manufacturers' stock. Now in connection with the former it was admitted at the meeting by shareholders, that some of the most important assets are worth at the present moment more than cost : and in connection with the valuation of the stock the total of £34,028 was arrived at from figures supplied by the foreman and heads of departments, who put everything down at actual cost price. In some cases, no doubt this is quite fair, but there are others where the element of *value* ought to be brought in, although this resting upon mere estimates might equally err, or even worse. The question is what are the elements of the stock costing ? and from figures obtainable it appears that many things cost very little indeed, and in those cases also cost price, and not estimated value is taken. Manager Hewitt pointed out that some of the machines which cost £52 in America only cost them £27 to produce, still these were taken not at £52, but at £27. It would be a curious balance-sheet and director's report that defied criticism from any one, especially if the spirit of opposition entered as a natural element between critic and criticised. As to ourselves, we are specially blessed, we have to neither advocate or defend the interests of London, Coventry, or Prescot, but of horology and English trade, and with a world with such a wide-open mouth as to swallow 10,000,000 watches a year, surely there is room for colossal factories at each of these places. We are firmly impressed with the belief that only these kinds of establishments will ultimately be able to survive under the modern conditions of the struggle for existence; and that that country will command the world's trade which can supply the greatest number of watches of the best quality at the lowest prices. And considering the lines upon which Prescot is developing she bids fair to hold her own in the future. But manager Hewitt is not all powerful, he can only get twelve pennies for a shilling, and it's something to be able to do that : many often have to part with a shilling to discharge obligations which could be met by two pence if their environment only supplied them with change. His hands are to a certain extent tied, but what he has done in the past ought to inspire confidence in the future, and the money ought to be forthcoming to develop this important branch of English trade.

Gem Lore *v.* Gemmology.—Several correspondents having kindly cut out an extract, relating to the gem production of Australia, we suppose we must say a word or two upon it. It is a description of the gems and the conditions under which they are found, by a gentleman posing as an authority, yet upon reading it, it is evident the writer could not pass an elementary examination in mineralogy. It states : "The diamond wash is in an intensely *eroded* and polished gravel, containing quantities of tourmaline, *pebble*, and jasper, ground and polished by running water." What this means it is impossible to say ! We admit they are geological and mineralogical terms, but except perhaps the term "ground and polished" which is probably associated with the art of the lapidist, the terms are unfortunately misapplied ! !

THE DINNER OF THE GOLDSMITHS' AND JEWELERS' ANNUITY INSTITUTION.

THIS annual festival is always one of the events of the year, and one to which we always look forward with pleasure and interest, not only because it brings together members of the trade who never see each other except on this occasion, but because it reminds us of the fact that the members of the trade are not altogether without something to fall back upon, should Dame Fortune's fickle favors towards us be entirely reversed. It also reminds us that we have at least some of our craft who are open and large-hearted, although we cannot help deploring that they are in a minority. It is indeed a very pleasing, but we must say touching, sight to see one admirable member of the trade come forth every year with three figures; but we cannot help thinking at the same time that there are many more who could do the same thing if they liked. But, alas ! their inclination is not equal to their ability ! So much the more, perhaps, to be said for those who give. In reading over the list of generous donors, the pleasure is always marred by the ghosts of a number of others whose names one looks for in vain, and it makes us realise the meaning of the old saying "a man's heart is not to be measured by his purse." And while speaking of the distribution of acquired wealth, it is always right that we should bear in mind the extent to which this institution has been benefited by "the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths," which has given no less than £1,750 to this charity, as well as subscribed annually £500. It is easy to see that the institution owes much of its wealth and existence to this trade guild. Turning to the good work done by this charity, we have only to draw attention to the figures given in another column of the number of annuities it has granted, and the number of unfortunate members of the trade for whom it has furnished a comfortable home, in which to end their days in peace. There is, above all, one lesson to be learned on a visit to the almshouses, viz., that, no matter what are our positions to-day, none of us know that we may not be glad to fall back upon the charity in our old days. We have heard it remarked, that old journey-men are usually in the minority, and that the majority of inmates of the homes are really respectable members of the trade, who have been overtaken by unforseen and unavoidable adversity. We therefore consider that every member of the trade, if his heart is entirely charity proof, ought to subscribe to the almhouses as he would to a life assurance.

It is a pleasing thing to note that, despite the all-round depression, this excellent institution has suffered little during the past year. Of course, it has been very fortunate on several occasions, as we have reported from time to time, but it will require extended efforts to maintain the position of the institution during the ensuing year. One is often struck with the amount of work done by some of the members, and it would be impossible for them to do more, therefore the new help must come from without. We have heard a certain member say : "My only hobby is the Institution." We wish there were many more like him.

Modern Shop Fronts.—Some of the North country papers have recently been speaking very highly of some of the work of John Curtis and Son, shop-fitters, Leeds. They point out what an important thing it is to have a good front, and good well-made fittings, which are sentiments we can thoroughly endorse. This firm makes a specialty of jewelers' fittings, and the attention of the trade can be directed to it, with a prospect of good resulting.

The Royal Society's Awards.—Friends of the editor will learn with pleasure that the Royal Society has singled him out in the distribution of their honors, by an award for the furtherence of his scientific researches, which have recently created such an interest in that world.

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Wedding Rings, 22 carat	76/-
Watch Cases, 22 ,,	70/-
,, 18 ,, Hall marked	60/-
,, 18 ,, (with forged bezels and bows)	50/- to 60/-
Hall marked, 15 ,,	50/-
Modern Coloured Gold	45/- 47/- to 50/-
Gold, 12 carat	40/-
Gold, 10 carat, 33/-; 9 carat	30/-
Mixed Jewelers' Gold, common	25/- to 27/6
Plated	7/6 to 12/-
Sterling Silver, Market price.	
Watch cases & Thimbles 6d. per oz. less than above.	
Silver Chains	1/6 to 2/6

Gold Lace Burnt and Assayed.

PRICES GIVEN FOR PARTING BARS BY ASSAY.

Best Bars, Fine Gold	84/-
,, ,, Silver	2/10
Common Bars, Fine Gold	84/-
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Silver Parting, Fine Gold, less 6 grs.	84/-
,, ,, Silver	2/10

Gold Assay at 3/6 per carat. Fine.

Jewelers' Sweep & Photographic Waste purchased.

All Parcels received in the morning are treated during the day, and cash or an offer is sent the same night, the Parcel being held over for return post.

Messrs. JOHNSON, WALKER AND TOLHURST beg to inform the Trade that they have increased their number of Furnaces for Smelting, and have now much better facilities for reducing all kinds of Limmel, Residues, and Sweeps, and trust they will be favoured with future parcels, which shall receive immediate attention. *January, 1894.*

TERMS.

—:—

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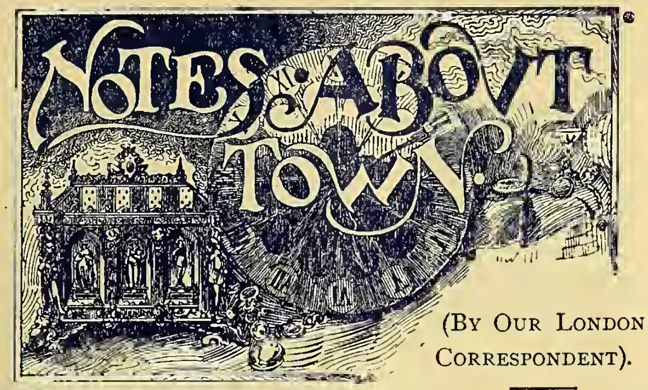


(By Our London Correspondent).

By your permission, Mr. Editor, I will not speak of the state of trade except to say that it requires all one's wits and care to keep moving, and that while things are no better, they are also no worse. Now and then one appears a bit busy, but the general tone is not such as delights my soul.

We have had drawing-rooms and fashionable gatherings during the past month, and great displays of jewelry of various kinds, on every possible occasion. The leading houses feel the good effect of the changes of fashion. A short time ago it was the milliners and costumers who were so much at the mercy of fashion's fickle favor, but now we find gems as much a victim to these caprices, as styles in hairdressing.

As one casts one's eyes back over the past, one cannot help being struck with the great influence our Sovereign has had in setting her face for or against various fashions. It is true some of the effects have been slow of assertion, but they have nevertheless been sure and lasting. Among the ridiculous superstitions of the age, against which Her Majesty has most laudably set her face, is the Scotian idea of the "unluckiness" of the opal. This gem has always been a favorite with the Sovereign, whom no one would for a moment regard as "unlucky," but absolutely the very reverse of that.

I am pleased to hear that the results of Her Majesty's well-earned and heroic affection for this gem of the gods is manifesting itself in a prominent manner, so that the opal once more bids fair not only to live down the ridiculous prejudices against it, but to be the gem of the hour. Several of the most prominent houses are showing it in quantities under some such legend as the following:—"The opal has always been regarded as a lucky gem by Indian Princes, and is a great favorite with H.M. Queen Victoria. Opals are now in great demand again. This beautiful gem is the next candidate for popular favor."

Usually I have not much sympathy with extremes, but when I look into the marvellous and unparalleled beauties of the opal, the flashings forth of prismatic fire, the unique purity of the rainbow colors, the mysterious changing of hues from blues to greens, and from greens to reds, and hi! presto change! and back again through thousands of hues, in the twinkling of an eye, practically, never twice alike, but ever changing, ever flashing forth vivid bursts of living fire; I can quite forgive the old Christian Fathers for regarding this gem as the abode of the Deity.

The turquoise has its failings, its comperes, and its forgeries. The lively apple-green chrysophase is imitated by dyed chalcedony, a fake also shared with less danger by the Hungarian opal—the so-called "golden carnelian," while true golden colored carnelian being nothing but chalcedony, naturally colored, artificially produced yellows are, of course, very hard to recognise.

But with the matchless opal, its qualities are inimitable. Far beyond the reach of the fraudulent amateur, or the skill of the profoundest experimental physicist, lie those minute natural fissures which act so remarkably upon light as to produce these marvellous splendors. Physicists are very fond of singing the glories of the soap bubble; and most ingenious are some of the methods which have been invented for the production of these delicate irridescent films: but although I have seen the handiwork of the greatest men of the day, I have yet to see a soap bubble to equal an opal!

Further, unlike the soap bubble, or the beauty of some turquoises, the optical properties of the opal are practically permanent. There is no coloring matter to pass into a different state of oxydisation, and no chemical reaction can occur between the ingredients of the gem under the influence of light. The tiny little fissues—the thickness of which are but the fraction of a millionth of an inch—throw the regiment of light waves out of step and so cause some of the components of white light to reach the eye sooner than others thus giving rise to the various hues. These remain unaltered, so that the beauty of the opal is not only very great and intense, but lasting and inimitable.

Another gem that has recently been very much paraded at court, asked for in the trade, and exposed in the best windows, is the emerald. It is a long time since this was a popular favorite, and, as one often remarks when a gem is recalled by society, it is a wonder where the lovely stones have all come from during the last few months. Emerald necklaces, brooches, *parures*, can now be seen, which include specimens of this gem up to thirty or more carats, and as it is of such low specific gravity these are of immense size.

I know a certain old English Catholic family, members of which were favorites in past ages at the Spanish Court. They came in for a share of South American treasures, and in their possession to-day are emeralds from two to three inches long of good color. Within the last week I have seen several with over a square inch of surface.

One prominent Bond-street house has adopted the idea of placing little mats about ten inches square, made of white cashmere, or colored velvet, edged with a simple fringe, over a low cushion; upon this is laid a beautiful emerald, sapphire or diamond necklace, the color of the mat varying according to the article shown.

The "golden carnelian"—*i.e.*, in the best specimens, Hungarian opal—is being taken up by the trade in every direction. I hear of great difficulty in obtaining good stones, and their price during the last two months has gone up over a 100 per cent. Many times during the month I have been asked if I knew where to obtain good specimens. It appears one or two foreigners came over with their stock and cleared out, and went back, and now the golden gem is not so readily procurable.

Chrysophase on the whole is, perhaps, a little on the wane; it is a pity such a lot of dyed chalcedony has flooded the market, and that shops of hosiers have marked up "Real Chrysoprase, only 1s."

Naturally this gave the public a bad impression of the gem. Even now really fine specimens of the true translucent Silesian chrysophrase are very rare. Of all the displays I have seen I have not noticed a half-dozen really fine specimens! Most of those that I have seen instead of being the beautiful translucient characteristic "apple" green, which approaches a tint of uranite, are a sort of semi—or quite—opaque cross between a cœruleum blue, and dirty light emerald green.

As a matter of fact the stone owes its origin to an impregnation of quartz with oxide of nickel. In the nickel mines in the Frankenstein Mountains of Silesia, the whole of the rocks are more or less of a green color; the rocks are fissured by veins filled with quartz, which passes from chalcedonie to opaline. The Jermyn-street Museum has recently acquired an interesting series of these associated rocks.

SPEAKING of Jermyn-street reminds me of a little conversation I overheard while looking at the Silesian specimens. A son of Esculapius had returned from his wanderings in the far East with a treasure, which he kindly brought to the Museum to inform the authorities of a new locality for sapphires. "But this is not a sapphire at all," remarked the assistant curator. "Nonsense," exclaimed the sawbones, "I am sure of it; I got this from a new locality where white man has never been before, and I found it myself." "Oh, yes," said the official, "near the sea I suppose." "Oh, no!" he quickly retorted. Subsequently he was obliged to admit that it was very near a big river. "But," said he, "I am none the less certain that it is a sapphire, and you ought to be very careful what you say; the fact is I *know* it's a sapphire, for I have taken it to Mr. ——, in Bond-street, who has had it put on the wheel for me." "It matters little where you have taken it," replied the assistant curator; "it is nothing but a water-worn bit of the bottom of an old bottle; if you disbelieve me, by your permission, I will cut it with a file, and I will show you it will swim in a 2·8 solution I have." Leave having been given, in the next minute the gem was singing "A Life on the Ocean Wave" *on* the surface of the specific gravity solution; in another minute a channel had been cut up its side with a file, and shortly afterwards the man with the treasure was hurrying down stairs muttering how he would have liked the contents of the *blue* bottle used. But "threatened men live long."

I MUST not forget to let my readers know how my proteges, the enamels, are getting on. Well, they grow more numerous and more beautiful every day. What charming designs are appearing and how inexpensive! Little fichu brooches that a short time ago would only be found in good medium houses, are now, with the addition of the new decoration, elevated into the place of honor of the very best houses; but I must not let my pen run on these, otherwise the editor will be liberal with his red ink.

The Mayor of Llanfyllins' Chain.

THE chain and badge of office for the above mayor, to be presented to the Borough by John Dugdale, Esq., the first gentleman occupying the position, is constructed as follows:—The principal links of the chain are shield shapes, and are to bear the names of successive mayors and their dates of office. Joining these links together are smaller ornamental connecting ones, and between the two sets nearest to the centre are civic maces. The centre link, from which the badge depends, is of a pointed oval shape with semi-circular sides, and has in the centre the arms and crest of the donor, enamelled, the motto being given above and below on an enamelled ribbon. On the reverse is engraved the inscription, recording the gift.

The badge is vesica shape with open wrought ends decorated with the national emblems, leeks, and oak sprays. In the centre is a large circular medallion, upon which appears in heraldic colors the Royal arms, crest, supporters, and motto of the time of King Charles II., in whose reign the ancient Corporation received its original charter. Over this, in blue enamelled letters, are the words, "Borough of Llanfyllin." Above the medallion is given the "red dragon" of Wales, while below it are shown the arms of the Powis family, also in heraldic colors. On the reverse of the badge is engraved "Borough of Llanfyllin, incorporated July 20th, 1885." This is another splendid example of the well-known work of T. and J. Bragg, Birmingham.

OUR SPECIAL PLATE.

No. 1. Design for tiara or head-dress, to be carried out in diamonds and pearls, or the fleur-de-lis band would be very suitable for the introduction of the new transparent enamel.

No. 2. Design for bridesmaid's or dress-brooch; the upper and inner margins of the wings which form the shoulders of the jewel should be in diamonds, the feathers in red, orange, lemon, and green gold. The initial could be in either gold, stones, or enamel. The coronet could be in gold or enamel, and the balls in pearls. The ribbon could be in a dry color, gold, or transparent enamel.

No. 3. Design for a monogram W W, in half or whole carving, it is also suitable for piercing or enamelling.

No. 4. Design for enamel fob chain drop, as now worn by ladies. Cabochon gems or pearls can be introduced with good effect in the medallions, and in the centre of the top member.

No. 5. Design for pendant in gold gems and enamel. The outer frame and lower scroll work should be in diamonds; the top of the frame in rubies or emeralds. Pearls should be employed at the meeting of the angles, and at the points of suspension of the pendants. The centre should be a very low cabochon top crystal, or portrait-diamond, exposing either miniature or arms; a line or two of enamel should follow the centre and outer scrolls; between these transparent enamel should be introduced, The flowers should be colored *au naturel.* The centre would form a charming receptacle for a fine opal now again fashionable.

No. 6. Design for either gold enamel, or enamel and gold drop for ladies fob chain.

No. 7. Design for a reversed wire cypher monogram, W W.

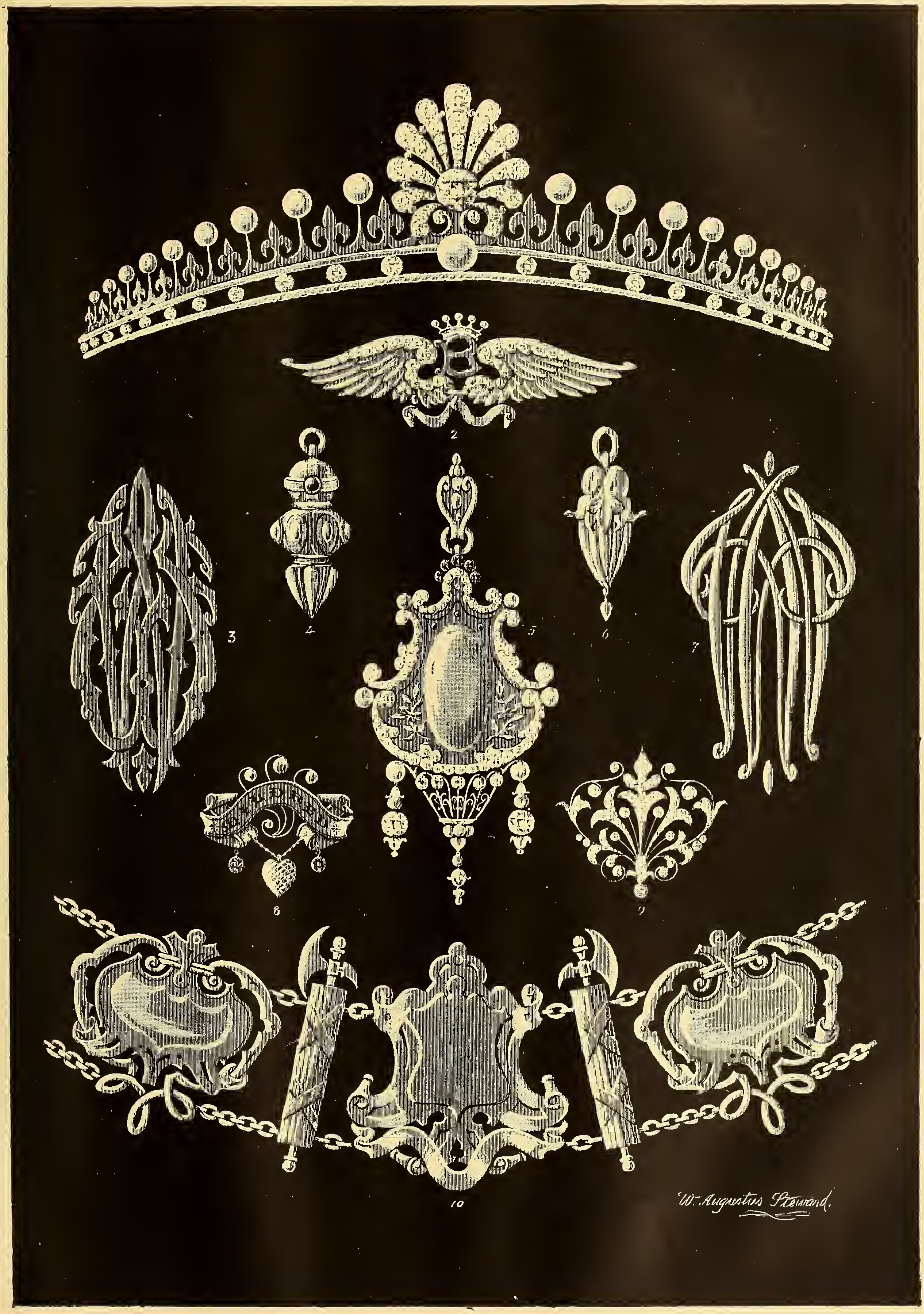
No. 8. Design for bridesmaid's or name brooch; the scroll to be in the new enamel, the name and stars in gold. Pearls are to be employed in the upper scrolls; and the chain below suspends a heart of opal, chrysoprase, "golden cornelian," or diamonds set *pave.* At each end of the chain is a collet set diamond.

No. 9. Design for scroll gem brooch, in either wholly diamonds; diamonds and pearls, or diamonds and rubies. Colored gems, with gradually deepening hues could also be introduced into the scrolls. Cheap light rubies or sapphires could be well employed here, and only one or two of darker hues need be used; it would thus make a novel, good, inexpensive jewel and in keeping with the style of the hour.

No. 10. Design for civic or Mayor's chain; this should be carried out in wet and dry colored gold. The centre shield should have scroll-turned ends, the shield should be laid on in good relief, and is designed to bear the arms of the town in enamel. The ribbon underneath is for the motto. The fasces would be in dead gold with the two blades burnished bright. The side shields, which would form the links of the chain, consist of a scroll-turned shield with centre raised and a line of enamel round them and points of enamel at intervals. These should be twisted round a well modelled frame, which should be nicely rounded and enamel introduced; the centre of the shields should be for the Mayors' names or names and crests, to be added as each annually retired.

Extension of Business Premises.—C. Thorpe and Co., the well-known tool manufacturers and importers, of 31, King-street, Oldham, have recently added Nos. 33a, 35a, 37a, to their old address; they have also largely increased their staff of workmen, especially in the jobbing and manufacturing departments. The next thing upon which they will be engaged is a new catalogue, which will be ready in a few weeks.

WATCHMAKER, JEWELER AND SILVERSMITH.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Goldsmiths' and Jewelers' Annuity and Asylum Institution.

We regret that the account of the last meeting of the above Institution was unavoidably squeezed out from our last number. The 134th half-yearly general meeting was held as usual at the Horological Institute under the presidency of Colonel Lambert.

The committee's report for the half-year stated that the receipts from all sources amounted to £1,852 18s. 3d., which with the sum of £423 13s. brought forward from the preceding year, made a total of £2,276 11s. 3d. The expenditure, including £98 10s. purchases of consols, amounted to £1,983 3s. 1d., thus leaving a balance of £296 8s. 2d. The result of the excursion to Rye House in July, 1893, was equal to the average, as was also the distribution of prizes, leaving a balance of £30 11s., after payment of all expenses. The benefit in December last at the Adelphi theatre, was not so successful as on former occasions, but there remained a surplus of £21 15s. 6d.

Mrs. F. Lowe and Mrs. M. A. Burwash were elected to the vacancies in the almshouses. For the annuity Messrs. Reinmann and Redpath, and Mrs. Lowe secured the largest number of votes, while between Mrs. Hoyle and Mrs. Marsham, there was a tie with 1,357. This difficulty, however, was overcome by the gallant chairman allowing Mrs. Hoyle the usual amount until next election. As usual the chairman was very heartily received. He dwelt upon the sincere pleasure it gave him to again have the gratifying duty conferred upon him of presiding at that half-yearly meeting, and promised that at the Goldsmiths' Company, and wherever and whenever he could advance the best interests of the Institution, he would most cordially do so. He considered the balance-sheet was very satisfactory under the present depression of trade and the unfortunate failures of important houses in the City, that affected not only their special industry, but the whole commerce of the country. They should also remember that the taste for the good old-fashioned style of jewelry, paying remunerative prices, had given way to cheap foreign trash. Nowadays ladies were content to wear something in the shape of a piece of wire round their wrists as a make-believe for a bracelet. (A laugh.) He pointed out that the great falling-off in the incomes of the higher classes, occasioned by the depreciation in the value of land and agricultural produce, and the many failures in the commercial world, had no doubt a depressing effect on the prosperity of the jewelers' and goldsmiths' trade, but he did not despair, for a time would come when ladies would be wearing something more valuable and fashionable than a piece of wire tied round their wrists (laughter); and instead of donning men's attire, and even the breeches occasionally (loud laughter), they would dress more in accordance with the requirements of their sex and help to revive trade, and make their staple industries flourishing. (Applause.)

We are pleased to notice that, although the number of subscribers has slightly decreased owing in a great measure to the continued depression in trade, there is an increase in the invested stock, and on the whole the financial condition of the society is very favorable.

Annual Dinner of the Institution.

The twenty-sixth annual dinner of this laudable institution was held at the First Avenue Hotel under the presidency of Col. Howard Vincent, C.B., M.P., supported by Col. Lambert. After the usual loyal toasts, the Chairman proposed "prosperity to the Goldsmiths and Jewelers' Annuity and Asylum Institution." He pointed out that 350 annuities had been given in connection with the institution, while between seventy and eighty inmates were maintained in comfort at the asylum. In addition there were eighty-six pensions in force. He also alluded to the kindly and generous characteristics of the president, whom he was proud to see on his right hand. (Cheers.) Speaking of the prospects of the trade, he called the attention of working men to the advice of Mr. J. Chamberlain, M.P., who, in a recent speech, urged the industrial classes to prepare for better times, reminding them that the depression through which they had passed was but transitory. The toast of "The Houses of Parliament" followed, on the proposition of Mr. A. S. Ridpath; and Mr. Naoroji, M.P., replied, and observed that, as ladies were principally indebted to the art of goldsmiths and jewelers, he hoped that in the future the fair sex would be invited to the festival dinner, in order that they might testify to their interest in the welfare of those engaged in the trade. (Applause.) Colonel Lambert then gave "The Chairman." The subscription list, which amounted to £276 4s., was announced, and included the magnificent sum of 100 guineas from the president, whose magnificent liberality was lustily cheered. The Chairman then proposed "The Health of the President," expressing regret that such great-hearted men were not able to live for a thousand years to benefit their fellows. (Cheers.) Colonel Lambert, in replying to this compliment, gave a brief history of the origin and work of the institution, which, he said, was established in 1860, at which period the members generally met at the old Crown and Cushion on Clerkenwell Green. Concluding, he gave the toast of "The Goldsmiths' Company," which guild, he remarked, gave the charity £500 a-year. Mr. F. B. Thomas, in responding, expressed a hope that the rule would be altered which laid down that all who did not pay to the funds five years before they were 50 years of age were shut out from pension or annuity. (Applause.) The president remarked, amid many demonstrations of approval, that the committee had been called upon to make a necessary alteration in the rule in question. The last toast was that of "The President, Vice-presidents, Trustees, and Other Officers of the Institution." The after-dinner proceedings were enlivened by the vocal attainments of Mdlle. Marie Vagnolini, Mr. R. Henry, Miss Edith Hands, and the members of the Celia Quartette.

THE LONDON SOCIETY OF GOLDSMITHS AND JEWELERS.

This Society appears to be progressing very rapidly, and has recently celebrated the first committee supper, which was held at the "Haunch of Venison," Bell-yard, Fleet-street, under the presidency of the Hon. D. Naoroji, M.P., a gentleman who takes special interest in the Clerkenwell trade. Amongst those present were Messrs. J. Angus, F. Aldhous, W. T. J. Broomfield, T. Colombo, E. Henes, A. W. Harvey, J. W. Jeffrey, J. Ledson, W. Wiggins, W. Monk, W. Partridge, T. F. Smith (Trustee), A. Humphreys (Treasurer), S. Lowen (Secretary), and C. F. Robinson (Assistant Secretary.)

The Indian M.F. has made a really deep study of our trade, and we only regret that we cannot spare space to report his opening speech *in extenso*. He pointed out that at the meeting called for the inauguration of the Society he tried to arouse a certain amount of enthusiasm for a cause which was so very good in itself; that his task that night was a lighter and pleasanter one, as it now became a case of congratulation, as 530 out of the 1,176 workmen in the jewelry trade had joined the society. The toast of the chairman again brought him to his feet when he drew a comparison with the condition of the working classes of India and those of our own county as no one by a Naoroji could. Other toasts were the Press and the visitors, to the former a representative of the *Weekly News and Chronicle* (a paper which takes especial interest in the affairs of the trade) responded; and to the latter Mr. Garretty, of the London Trades Council replied, urging the society to affiliate to the larger society, and so become part of a combination of combinations. Since the formation of this society some 100 members have fallen out. Perhaps this is because the society has not turned out such a fire brand as some would like, but is pursuing a course which will end in honor and benefit, by earning it, and establishing business on a fair basis both for employer and employé.

The annual dinner of the committee came off at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, under the presidency of Mr. M. Taylor (chairman of the committee), there was a good attendance despite the bad weather, and a good menu. The principle toast was that of "The Institution," coupled with the name of the President, and was received with enthusiasm. The singing and music were excellent, in which Kington Smith, a tenor vocalist, and artiste at the same time scored high. Messrs. Wheatley, Mears, G. H. Brown, Sam Hagon, W. Walker, and C. V. Robinson contributed to make a very pleasant evening. Messrs. H. J. Padgett and S. Lowen were efficient stewards, and Mr. H. H. Heap, an able accompanist. Messrs. Dury and Hagon replied to the toast of "The Visitors," and the toast of "The Chairman," was received with usual honors.

"Corkology."—The mysteries of this commendable cult—we suppose we ought to say science—have frequently been explained by us. Recently there was a musical evening given at the "Oakley Arms," when a ballot for three life votes, for the Watch and Clock Makers' Pension Society, was held. We wish there were many more such "ologies" in connection with our charities.

BIRMINGHAM
NOTES

(By Our Own Correspondent.*)

The depression which has settled on the local trade since the commencement of the year still continues, without any sign of alteration for the better from the point of view of sales. Approbation and jobs are as brisk as ever, but of course what the manufacturer has to depend on is the sale of stock parcels, and these are unusually scarce. It thus happens that the makers are the worst sufferers by the depression, for they *must sell* at least a certain minimum quantity of goods every month, and factors refuse to be tempted into buying anything but absolute necessaries until such time as the outlook is somewhat more favorable. I do not mean it to be inferred that the factors also do not feel the stagnation very acutely, because it is clear that in the majority of cases they must be doing very badly, but the factor has a pull over the manufacturer in that he must get a share of the retailers' orders, while he is in no way obliged to replace his sales until the gap in his rolls becomes too marked to be ignored. Then, and not till, does the manufacturer's chance come.

Travellers who take Scotland and the North of England bring back very bad accounts of the trade in those districts. Naturally the wholesale establishment is rather a rarity up there, as the country is worked pretty thoroughly by the London and Birmingham houses, but what few there are complain just as bitterly as our local factors. As a consequence most of the people who have been North since Christmas have experienced about the worst journeys on record. The possible customers are so few that it is only in fairly good times that the houses in the North pay for working.

Although the price of silver seems to have touched the bottom, the makers of silver jewelry and plate seem to be very little busier than they were last month. It is principally due no doubt to the general depression of trade that articles of plate are so quiet, but as regards the common silver jewelry it looks as if it were going out of fashion altogether. One of the greatest drawbacks which the trade has to contend with is the constant fall in the prices of finished work, which has to be met by scamping the finish and screwing the material to the thinnest it is possible to make up. The consequence is that for the sake of a fraction of the cost, a wretched flimsy article is put on the market, and breaks after being worn a few times. The buyer, who has probably paid a good price for the article is, we think reasonably enough, disgusted, and the seller loses a customer. Several of the best factors have dropped carrying silver goods as they are so common that they don't pay to carry, and only injure the reputation of the firm when sold. Of course there always has been, and presumably always will be, a considerable demand for cheap and nasty goods, but there can be no doubt that for the respectable factor and shopkeeper they are best left alone. Cheap and nasty goods killed the silver bracelet trade, and also necklets and lockets, and experience ought to teach us that whatever branch of the trade gets into a similar degraded position will speedily follow suit and become extinct.

Fashion certainly affects the trade to a very great extent, but it is the appeal to the lowest strata of society which has been most influential in undermining the trade. The continued wearing of jewelry by the middle and upper classes is dependent or its exhibiting a certain amount of artistic ability and intrinsic value. If showy rings and brooches are to be brought within the reach of the domestic servant and the factory girl then the upper classes will surely mark their position by declining to wear anything at all similar.

Messrs. T. and J. Bragg, of Vittoria-street, who have been paying a good deal of attention to enamelling, announce that they have perfected a new process, by means of which large numbers of similar pieces in true, hard, permanent enamel can be produced, suitable for badges, tokens, gifts and for advertising and other purposes. Up to the moment of writing I have not had an opportunity of inspecting anything produced by the new method, but I understand that it is an adaptation of some of the transfer processes to the requirements of enamel. At any rate anything tending to popularise enamel, must, as I pointed out in my March Notes, be of interest to the trade.

We are sadly in want of something entirely new with which to attract the attention of fashion and provide a few months' good business. Could not some of our leading firms endeavor to revive Limoges enamelling? It would offer a fine scope for designing small plaques to be enamelled and mounted as brooches, etc. The enamel now in use is mostly painted work on an enamel base, and is produced in almost the same way as patterns on china. Its fault is that it is too microscopic and delicate, and, as minute detail is little cared for by the public at large, enamel painting will never score a big success. Enamels in the Limoges manner possess the great advantage of mass, light and shade, and in general effect give the idea of a miniature oil-painting. I have no doubt that a fashion for them could be cultivated by any firm of ordinary artistic abilities.

In reference to my remarks, last month, as to the necessity of students of the Jewelers' Technical School attending also the School of Art classes, I note, on re-reading the report of the association, that their official indentures of apprenticeship contain a compulsory clause to that effect. I would, however, point out that the apprenticeship system is now almost dead, and masters will have to make the study of drawing a condition of common employment, if any permanent benefit is to be derived from the Vittoria-street schools.

I hear that Messrs. Adie and Lovekin, Limited, Regent-street, are about to considerably extend their premises. Latterly they have embarked into the manufacture of fancy clocks in metal, wood, or other frames, and similar fancy goods, and this has been so successful that their present accommodation has become altogether inadequate.

In times of depression the Birmingham working jeweler was wont to seek improvement by emigrating to the States, where he was sure of finding employment at a considerably higher rate of wages. For years past the discontented worker, good and bad alike, has found a *bonâ fide* "Earthly Paradise" over the herring-pond, but accounts now to hand show that this avenue of escape is closed for some time to come. Many old Birmingham men are wholly or partially out of work, and those who can afford it are making the best of their way back again. Unfortunately for themselves they will find things much the same here as where they have come from.

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

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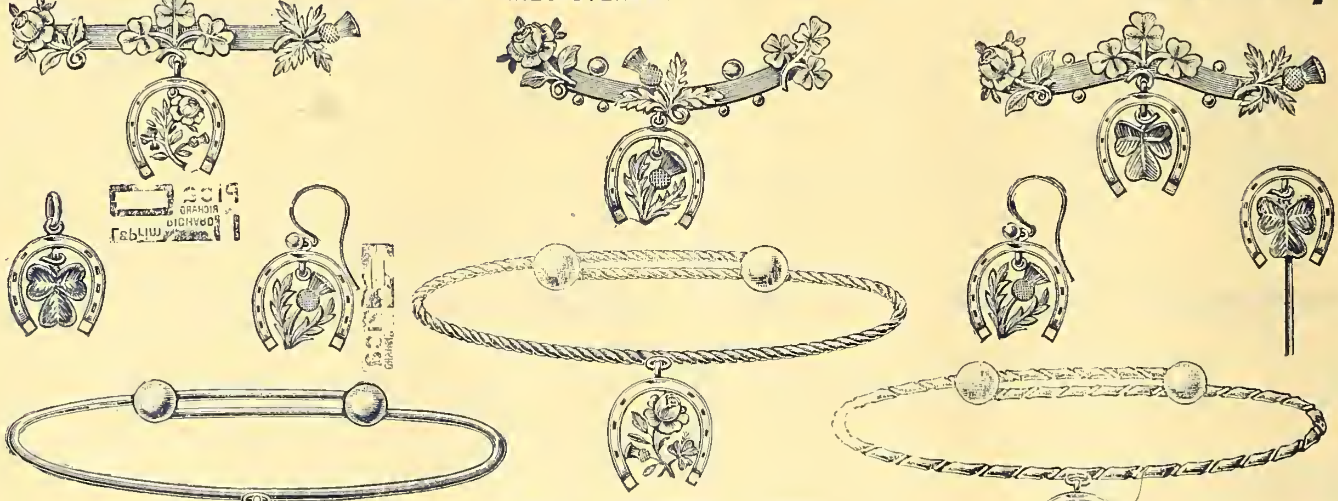

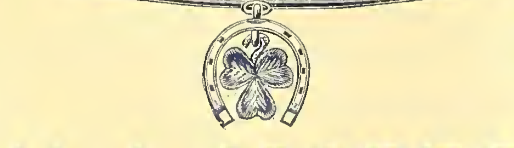

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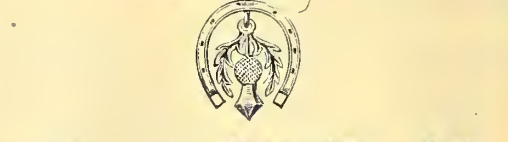

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The local diamond trade is in a very bad way. Prices are so high that makers cannot afford to invest; indeed, experience tells them that there is practically no market for them at the money. Large stuff is dead, and it seems as though a relapse from the present inflated prices is inevitable. The only demand is for small cheap stones, and even of these sales are small. Under the circumstances the energy displayed by the dealers is very remarkable, and in some cases makers have more calls from diamond men than from buyers. There have been several accessions to the ranks of the dealers since the commencement of the year, in spite of bad trade, and I hear some rumor of a mine owner who is going to carry all before him by putting his own "cut" on the market.

The committee of the Jewelers' Association have issued a circular, reminding members of the importance of at once advising the officers of the receipt of notices of meetings of creditors affecting the trade. This is absolutely necessary if creditors' interests are to be adequately represented. Cases have recently come before the committee, in which the interests of creditors have been very greatly prejudiced by estates being left in the hands of debtors, without any controlling influence by creditors. The two points which the committee emphasize in cases of insolvency are as follows:—(1.) An investigation by creditors into the statement of affairs, the causes of failure, the conduct of the debtor, and the substantiality of any proposed surety. (2.) The protection of the estate pending the completion of composition arrangements, so that, should these fall through, the estate may remain intact.

The Association certainly possesses a fine field for the exercise of its undoubted influence, in seeing that the estates of bankrupts are conserved and administered in the best possible way, and it must be satisfactory to those manufacturers who are not members of the association to know that it recognises its duty in the matter. It is, nevertheless, in this very matter of bankrupt estate, that the trade at large has a grievance against the Association, because their constant aim is to acquire the entire control in every case, and where this cannot be obtained the tendency is to let that particular case severely alone. Doubtless their intentions are entirely good, but in thus endeavoring to monopolise the management of bankruptcy cases they create a certain amount of hostile feeling to them amongst non-members which cannot fail to injure their position in some degree. I submit that a give-and-take policy would be in every way advantageous to them. Cases constantly occur in which a majority of the creditors desire the appointment of a particular trustee, and on such occasions, and before the association is outvoted, it would be better for them to frankly accept the wish of the general body of the creditors. Such a course would, I believe, add largely to the number of their members and increase their prestige with the trade. Nor need their dignity suffer, for, comprising, as they do, nearly all the principal firms of manufacturers, no reasonable amount of concession to co-operation with genuine outside opinion would detract in the least from their importance.

One result of the depression in trade is seen in the increasing number of manufacturers who deal directly with the shopkeeper. Most of the well-to-do shopkeepers now have a circle of manufacturers who supply them with the bulk of their requirements. This is decidedly the coming feature in the trade, and many makers who once refused all temptations to supply retailers are now willing to place them on the same footing as their regular customers. There is really no reason why the retailer should not buy in the best market, and I may state from actual experience that the average shopkeeper can and does buy quite as much as the average factor, and is fully his equal in the matter of payment.

The Prescot Watch Factory.

The fifth ordinary general meeting of the above company has been held, and the progress and business of the year made matter for admiration and criticism. The meeting was held under the presidency of the chairman of directors, Mr. D. Houghton, and amongst others present were Messrs. A. A. Menzies and Thomas Dennett (directors), Mr. Thomas P. Hewitt (managing director), Mr. W. Tyrer, J.P. (solicitor to the company), Mr. Banner (auditor), Mr. James Hewitt (secretary), and the following shareholders: Messrs. Elias Lyon, John Lyon, John B. Sutton, Eustace G. Parker, William Sexton, John Pennington, Thomas Philson, Robert Harvey, Rev. Harry Mitchell, Rev. S. A. K. Sylvester, Messrs. H. Makin, F. D. Nuttall, F. Walker, Fred Smith, J. Garrahh, George Hall, W. L. Hindley, J. Lidson, S. Farren, B. A. Dromgoole, Charles J. Hewitt, and Mr. J. Wood (assistant secretary).

The report which had been previously circulated was taken as read. It was as follows:—The directors are pleased to report a net balance of profit after paying the interim dividend on preference shares to the 30th of June last of £5,340 0s. 1d. (including £324 3s 2d. from last year) to be dealt with at the end of the fifth year's working, which will allow the payment of a dividend of 6 per cent. on the ordinary shares of the company and a further dividend on the preference shares at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and £500 to be written off machinery account. These payments would absorb the sum of £5,253 1s. 3d., leaving a balance of £86 18s. 10d. to be carried forward. The directors, acting on the resolution of shareholders passed on the 4th of May last, have procured the most modern and advanced plant for case-making, and they are pleased to report that the sizes most in demand will shortly be manufactured, which will further increase the profits of the company and ensure a more unform make and constant supply. The £55,000 additional capital which was considered absolutely necessary for working this department has not been fully subscribed, there remaining a balance of £39,000 yet to be allotted. In order not to delay progress during the year under review, the directors have had recourse to borrowing on security from the bank. It is, therefore, most important that the remaining shares be at once applied for, so that the amount borrowed may be repaid, and the necessary commercial capital provided for successfully carrying on the business.

In moving the adoption of the report, the Chairman said he thought that, considering the exceptional circumstances of the times, and the difficulties attending a new business, the shareholders might be congratulated, on the whole, upon the result of the year's working. He drew an unhappy, but nevertheless true, picture of the sad state of trade over practically the whole world, in face of which he maintained that there had always been a demand for their watches, and sufficient orders had been obtained to keep the works going. The directors had given much time to the improvement of the machinery in the factory, and they could now turn out a complete watch, including the case. The output of watches from the factory in September was 222, in October 406, in November 1,063, and in December 2,526. (Applause.) The output at the present time was upwards of 100 a day, and he had an assurance that that number could be more than doubled during the present year. Of course, he need not point out that this increased output meant greater outlay and expenditure, and necessarily called for increased capital.

Up to the present all the cases had had to be purchased from outside, with all the disadvantage of extra cost of unnecessary labor put upon them, as they had already explained to them. In accordance with the resolution of May last the directors had done all in their power to carry out their instructions, but, as they were all well aware, the whole of the sum stated at that time to be necessary for the development of the business had not been subscribed, not more he thought than one-third, and he believed that of that one-third the money had been subscribed chiefly by the directors, every director, one and all, had subcribed handsomely to that amount. It was to be hoped, however, that the shareholders would take a further interest in that matter and would help on the directors in their very laudable work of making the company a perfect success. At present they felt that their hands were more or less tied and the progress was more or less delayed. He could not impress upon them too strongly the importance of their considering carefully the desirability of the increased capital. With all the grand powers that that company possessed they ought to be able if efficiently used to bring about the very best anticipated results. (Applause.) He begged to move that the balance-sheet and report as presented be adopted, and that the cost of the perfected makers of new watches be transferred to the machinery account.

Then followed the usual criticisms.

Mr. Hall said he was only a very small holder in the company, still the small holding to him was perhaps as serious a matter as very much larger ones might be to other people. He noticed in the balance-sheet that they had that day a stock in hand of £34,028, whereas last stock-taking they had a stock of £20,125, showing an increase of £13,903. That looked to him a very large increase. To some extent the chairman's remarks had explained it, but perhaps he could explain it more fully how they came to have £13,000 of an increase of stock. They were owing to the bank that day £22,471, and they had book debts of £19,217. He had not the remotest idea of it, but it looked to him that £19,000 of book debts with a bank deficit of £22,000 ought to be considered. If the custom of the trade was a very long credit, then he thought there should be some move in a great modern company like that to bring about an improvement in order to turn the money round quicker.

The Chairman explained that the increase of the stock was due to two causes: first, because at the commencement of the year some departments had practically no stock, and secondly, because, with increased business, increased stock was necessary, both in materials and in partly finished goods. The next question was regarding how the stock was valued. This was explained by T. P. Hewitt, who said it was done by the foremen of the various departments, who could tell the exact cost price of everything, which was corroborated by one of the auditors. The subsequent principal speaker was Alderman Smith, of Liverpool. He said he thought that the shareholders there were entitled to know how the stock had been valued. So far as he was concerned he should never have put into the company the money that he had if he had not had the fullest confidence possible in the concern. If he was not assured, not only that they had honest men running the company, but also that they were capable men, he should very soon have ceased to be a shareholder. (Hear, hear.) At the present time he had taken all the shares that he thought he ought to take, and his confidence was shown by the fact that they were all ordinary shares. But he could easily see that there was some ground for the observation of the shareholder who spoke, and particularly with regard to the bank. He thought it was very unsatisfactory that the shareholders of the company had not come forward in the application for shares, and wiped off every possibility of having to go to the bank. It was all very well for men to come there and move that case-making be gone on with, but they knew very well that intricate and delicate machinery meant cost, and they knew that stock must accumulate while they were getting things together; that was to say, that if they got material to make wheels, and made them, they would have increased stock. Then as to making machinery, they could not make and complete machinery for the place as soon as they would perhaps like; but when gentlemen made a motion that case-making should be gone into, he thought they should be prepared to back their action by a substantial application for shares. He assumed that the bank would require the directors to sign some sort of guarantee, and he thought it was the duty of the shareholders to take up shares and wipe off the money which the directors had had to guarantee. So far as he was concerned he should be prepared to plank down his part of it. (Hear, hear.) He did not know what the directors proposed to do, but if he were in order he should propose that they do in the company, like they did in everything else that they were interested in, send round a little note, a kind of whip, to let every man put down what he was prepared to take in shares or let the company have a deposit in cash. He was prepared to do his share, and he did not think there was a man in the room who knew the undertaking that they were connected with but would not be prepared to take his share in the final completion, that completion which was not very far distant, so far as he could see. In fact, from what he had got to know, it only required the £50,000 share capital that was issued to be taken up, because if it was taken up they should have been congratulated by Mr. Hall, because then not only would they have had nothing owing to the bank, but they would have had £1,700 at command. Yet in fact they would not have been in a better position financially, but it would have looked better. If the directors would take his suggestion into consideration and send round a sheet of foolscap he should be glad to put his name down. He seconded the confirmation of the accounts and report.

The report and balance sheet were then unanimously passed, and the paper scheme put into execution. Meanwhile a dividend of 6 per cent. on ordinary and preference shares was proposed, to which an amendment of 5 per cent. on ordinary shares was put and lost.

Of the retiring directors, Messrs. Clarkson and Roby, the former owing to his leaving the neighbourhood did not seek re-election, and his place was not filled up. £250 each was awarded to the directors for their services.

Votes of thanks were then passed to Chairman and Managing Director, the latter being very much extolled.

In replying Mr. Hewitt gave figures and forecasts which are remarkable. He said that at the present they had 12,000 to 15,000 watches on order.

Platinum in Situ.

FROM the quantity of platinum that is to be found in the trade few have realised the fact that it has never till quite recently been found *in situ*. It was first brought from Choco, near Papayan, in South America, by Ulloa, a Spanish traveller, in the year 1735. It was found in that country in the alluvial deposits of the river Pinto as small pebbles or grains, whence it derived its name platina, from *plata*, silver. But, in accordance with modern nomenclature, it was altered to platinum. It was here, as was usually the case elsewhere, accompanied by viridium, osmium, palladium, gold, copper, and chromite. It was nearly a hundred years later that it was found in the alluvials of the Urals, which have now come to be the principal source of the world. Numerous countries, Borneo, California, Canada, Honduras, and our own green Emerald Isle, and various other lands, have furnished grains of the heavy steel-grey mineral. One of the largest masses ever found weighed 21lb. troy, masses of half that weight not being uncommon. Ten years ago it was found on Krestovo Zdvizensky, property belonging to Count Suvalov, in a country watered by the Vyzaj and Karva, tributaries of the Kama, and on the western slopes of Urals, in grains disseminated through the olivine yabbro rocks upon which rested platinum alluvium. In the valleys of the Salda and the Tazil, tributaries of the Fiera, specimens of platinum have often been found interwoven with olivine and chromite, which ought in itself to have suggested the origin of the metal. Still, it was only quite recently that it has been traced sufficiently up stream to be run home. At Goroblagodatsk it has been found with chromic iron in olivine rock in such profusion as to pay for crushing, the results being 22gr. to the ton. The highest yield yet recorded is 93 to 112 grains to the ton of rock. We thus have at last traced up this metal to its source, and these old basic igneous rocks will be looked to with more interest in future; indeed, we have just received some somewhat similar rocks from South Africa, from a deep bore, which absolutely carries the precious yellow metal.

The Wearing of Jewelry.—Every now and then the question of wearing jewelry is brought up. A short time ago Grant Allen poured out the vials of his wrath upon the practice, a departure which we do not think met with much favor, even from those who, like ourselves, are amongst his admirers. Recently a Scarborough institution had the matter under discussion, when the position taken up by one side was, "That the verdict of mankind from time immemorial is emphatic in favor of jewelry being beautiful, and that it provides employment for numerous workers.'" This was met by the opposition by, "That the æsthetic taste to which the wearing of jewelry is suppose to minister is of a very low order, and that spending in itself does not tend to provide employment." Of course the very formation of the terms of the debate would lead one to imagine that neither of the sides understood much either of logic or the jewelry question. But the speakers managed to keep the majority present from voting either way, and a majority of one was obtained by the opposition.

William Carl, jeweler, formerly in business in Sloane-street, W., was the victim of a burglary, and was deprived of all his valuables. He has been able to hold out for five years, till February 14th, when he left home, and nothing else was heard of him until his body was recently discovered floating in the river at North Greenwich.

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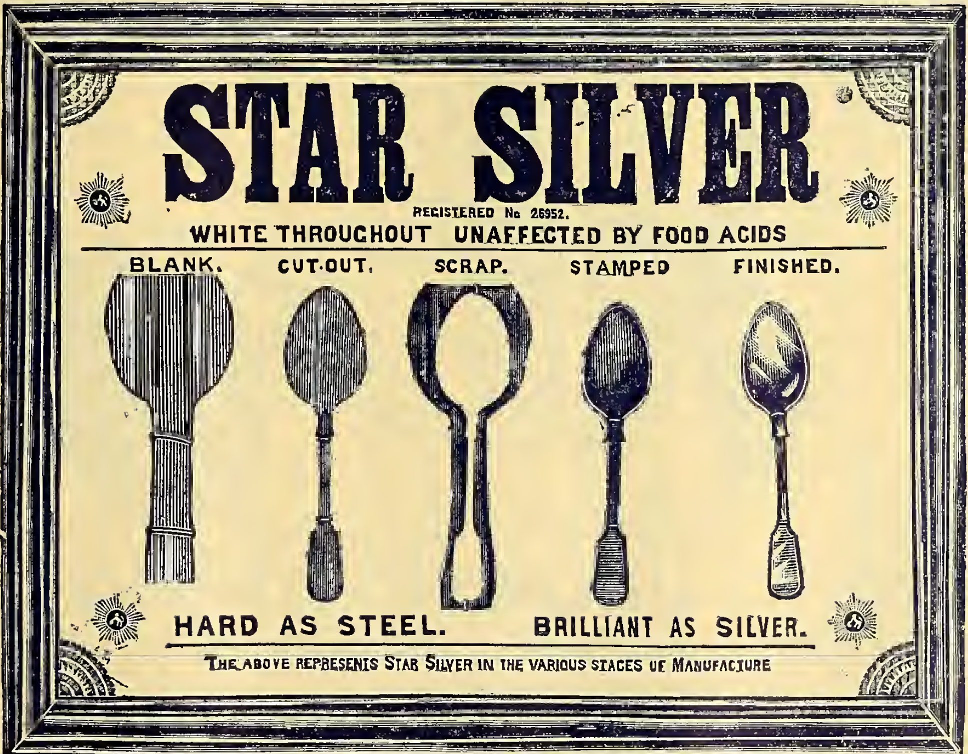
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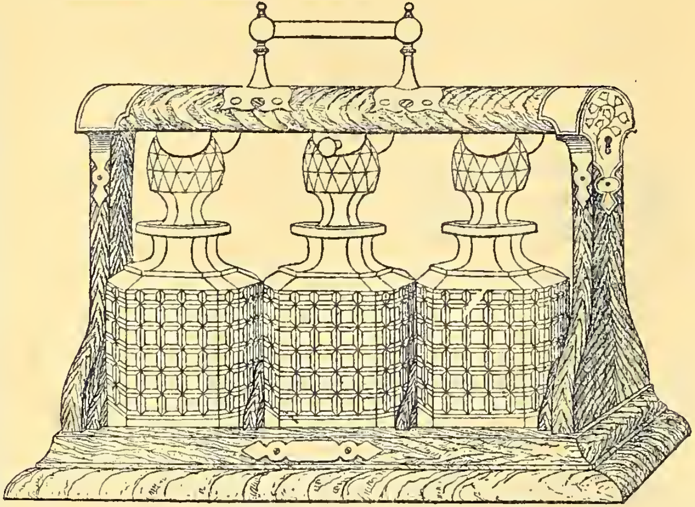

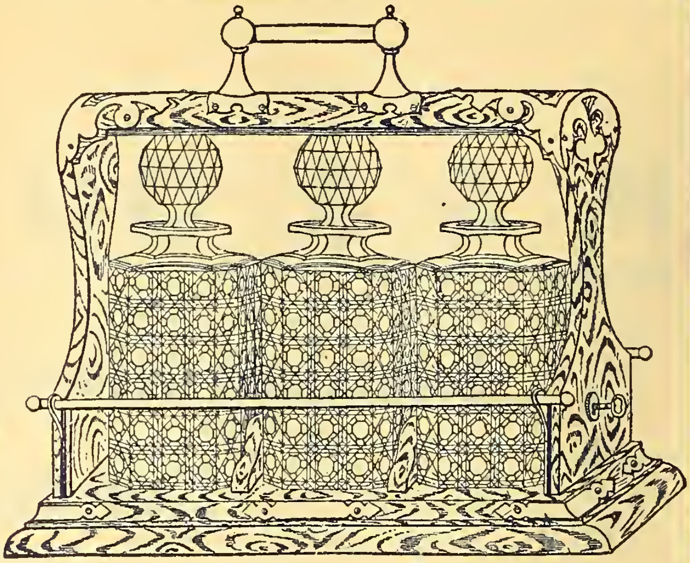

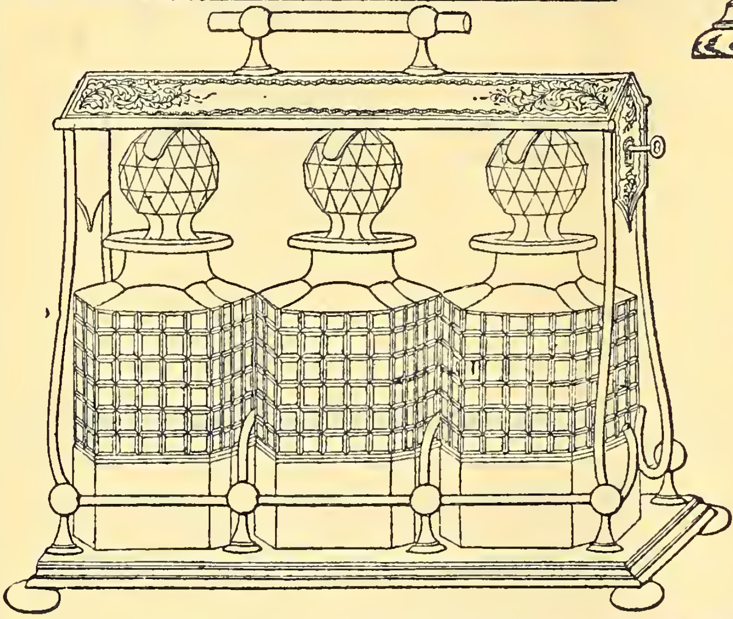

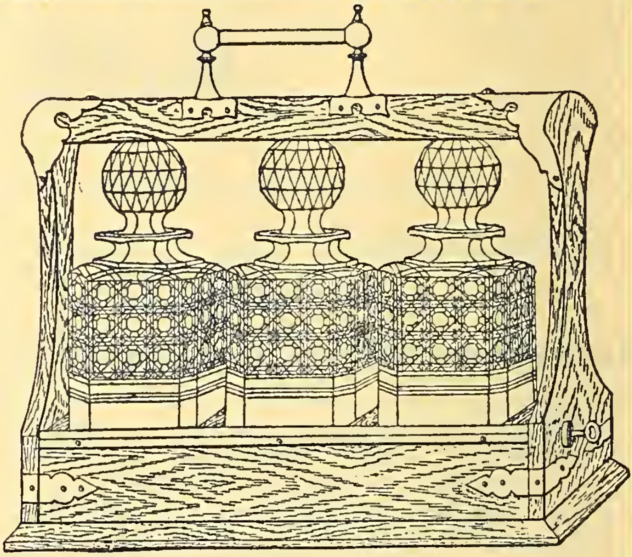

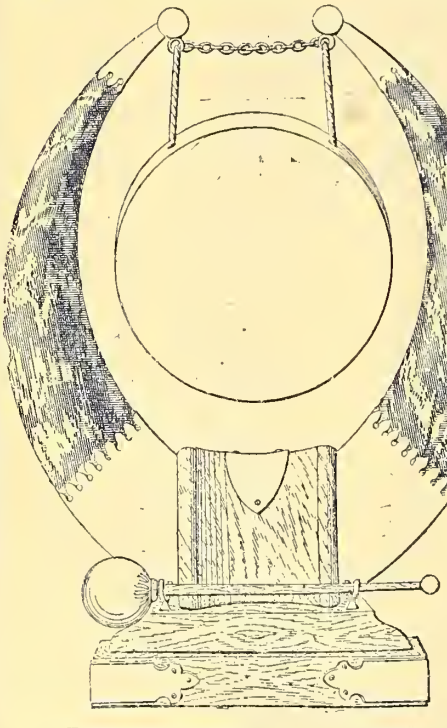

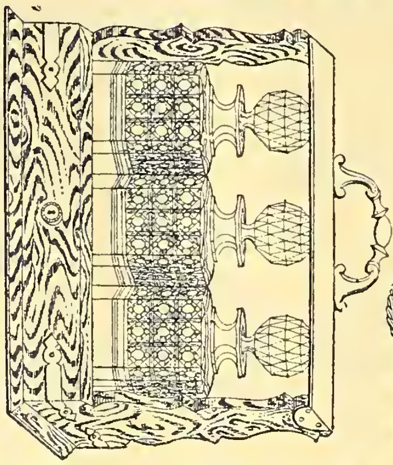

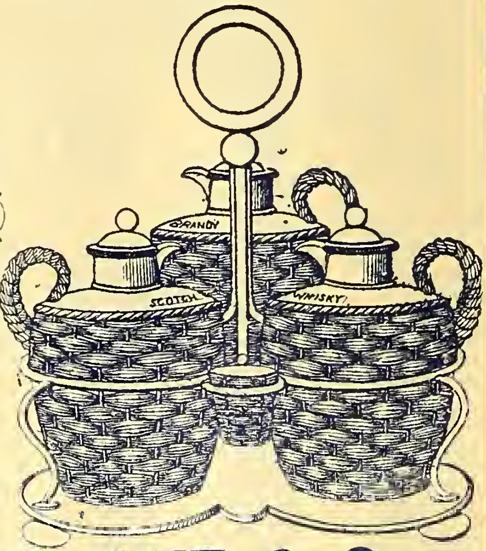

427. Liquor Frame.
751. Liquor Frame.
677. Liquor. All E.P.
1038. Liquor Frame.

748. Cape Horn Gong, 5, 7, & 9 inch.
Liquor, E.P. Top Bar.
1831. Regd. Ivanhoe, Liquor

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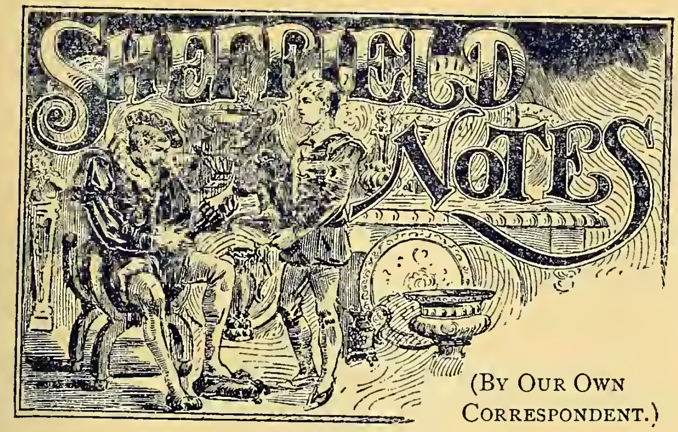

(By Our Own Correspondent.)

The enlargement of the Assay Office now in progress seems to point to increased facilities for silver marking in the near future. The subject is of considerable importance to the trade in Sheffield, and the question of daily assays, long urged upon the attention of the Goldsmiths' Company, has acquired additional significance from the increased output of silver. Messrs. Watson and Sons had the inevitable change in view some years ago when they purchased from the Improvement Committee the piece of vacant land adjoining the Assay Office. Upon this land they are now erecting the additional offices, which, when completed, will constitute not only a great convenience to the assaying branch of their own establishment but a street improvement of some consequence in the centre of the town. The whole of the east side of Leopold-street will then be built up, and a finished look given to a considerable section of the improvement scheme inaugurated many years ago.

As far as the general state of the trade in the town is concerned, the situation remains unchanged. Business here sympathises with the general depression which seems to prevail more or less over the whole world. That being so, there does not seem much prospect of an immediate improvement. Still the general situation as regards Sheffield is modified in some degree by special causes. For example, the agitation in favor of a spirited naval programme is very materially affecting for good the heavy trades at the east end of the town. On the other hand, the lighter industries are suffering in consequence of the delay in settling the tariff question in America. The cabinet-case trade has not been so bad for twenty years as it is at present, and this solely in consequence of orders by cutlery firms being held back pending a final settlement. When this settlement is effected, a rush of orders is anticipated similar to what was experienced just before the McKinley tariff came into operation. If this expectation is realised it will be a welcome relief to many manufacturers in the old staple industries of the town.

In the meantime, as the French prisoner remarked to the magistrate who was trying him, "one must live!" and, although the necessity does not appear any more obvious to society at large than it did to the aforesaid dignitary, yet certain "items" in the social system seem to have decided views on the subject, as it regards themselves at any rate. This is the case with the art workman, whose status and remuneration have been the subject of so much newspaper controversy recently. Mr. Charles Green, who possesses the rare faculty of writing about art as well as he practises its principles in his workshop, invited any art workmen who thought well to meet at his house on a given date to talk over the general situation. I was unavoidably prevented from dropping in as I intended, and I have not yet heard the result of the deliberations of those who did meet. It is to be hoped, however, that something practical will be the outcome of the discussion; and this no less in the interest of good workmanship in the silver trade than of the artisans themselves. When the modeller, the chaser, the engraver, and the piercer occupy as sure a position industrially as the collier, the community at large will be the gainers.

My forecast last month as to the result of the year's working of Messrs. John Round and Son turns out to be correct. The twenty-first ordinary general meeting of the shareholders has just been held at the works in Luder-street, under the presidency of Alderman Joseph Gamble, the chairman of the company. The other directors present were Mr. Henry Pawson and Mr. Jarvis W. Barker. The report of the directors stated that the net profit for the past year, after providing for all trade charges, was £3,001 4s. 1d., which with £452 4s. 3d. brought from the previous year made £3,453 8s. 4d. available for dividend. The directors recommended that of this sum £3,000 be appropriated to the payment of a dividend of 12s. per share on the 5,000 shares of the company, being at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum free from tax on the amount called up, and that the balance of £453 8s. 4d. be carried forward to next year. It was proposed by the chairman, and seconded by Mr. Pawson, that the report and statement of accounts be adopted, that a dividend as recommended be declared, and that the balance of £453 8s. 4d. be carried forward to next year. The motion was adopted, as was also a vote of thanks to the chairman, directors, and staff for their services.

A massive silver cup manufactured by Mr. Marks, of Arundel-street, and presented by him about seventeen years ago to the Jewish congregation of Sheffield, has just been the subject of an adventure. The cup, which was used in the services of the synagogue, was usually kept for safety in a wooden cupboard, which, however, on March 10th, through some oversight on the part of someone, happened to be left unlocked. It is probable that on this occasion the opportunity made the thief, who seems to have been somewhat of a novice in his profession. Having given the police and the public generally time to become thoroughly acquainted with the article through the medium of the Press, he straightway went and pawned it. Of course its recovery under the circumstances was only a question of time.

South Africa is becoming more and more looked upon as the country of the future. America is already showing signs of incipient premature old age. It is true that Australia, having sown her economic wild oats, may settle down and continue for many decades a market well worth cultivating by Sheffield manufacturers. But the infinite possibilities in the future of South Africa seem to attract the young and sanguine. Quite a number of young fellows from Sheffield are already there in the capacity of electrical engineers. It seems quite in accordance with the fitness of things that the force of the future should gravitate towards the country of the future.

Mr. Howard Vincent, M.P. for the Central Division, has visited the Argentine Republic with special reference to its forming a market for Sheffield goods, and was profoundly impressed with the natural wealth of the country, and although it is not much use speculating on what might have been had it been settled by an Anglo-Saxon population, yet even as things are it is evident that an energetic cultivation of the market by our manufacturers will be well repaid. The difficulty here as elsewhere is the unscrupulous imitation of Sheffield trade marks by our foreign rivals, an evil which would, perhaps, be best stamped out by the adoption of the system of international trade marks, advocated by certain prominent members of the Cutlers' Company.

MARKETS.

Board of Trade Returns.

Imports.—*Clocks.*—The clocks imported into the country during February were valued at £27,592, compared with £30,517 for the same month last year, and £33,890 for February, 1892.

Watches.—The watches imported into the country during February were valued at £56,427, compared with £58,360 for the same month last year; and £56,774 for February, 1892.

Exports.—*Plate and Gilt Wares.*—The plate and gilt wares exported during February were valued at £17,201, compared with £17,228 for February, 1893. It is satisfactory that our exports are increasing, and if we remember how America and Australia have fallen off, it is pretty certain we are increasing business greatly with other countries.

Diamonds.

London, March 28th, 1894.—There has been very little but grumbling during the whole of the month. Prices are high, money is light, and retail trade is, and has been for a long time, very bad! I have seen numerous parcels offered at prices which I am sure are less than cost. The settlement of the American tariff has somewhat quieted the feeling of uncertainty in the market; many were in hopes that the increase duty would be imposed, with hopes of running in a large quantity of goods before the Act came into operation. There has been some demand from several Continental houses for good goods for making up for the Antwerp Exhibition, but, so far as I can see, English houses are not taking a very active part in this direction.

Paris, March 27th, 1894.—There is a little demand for general goods of fair and best quality, for the making up of articles intended for the Antwerp Exposition, which is advertised to open in May. There has also been a small demand for four-grainers which has been maintained all through the month. But prices are still unremunerative; not low, but the rough is still so high that the margin of profit is excessively small. Throughout the trade it may be taken that stocks are all very low, as it is a long time now since the factories have been running full time.

Amsterdam, March 27th, 1894.—During the past month there has been a slight improvement at our place in the sale of polished goods. There has also been a little demand for Russia and Poland, where, in accordance with the Greek style, Easter, as well as other feasts, is thirteen days later, and a great many of the presents made at New Year are returned at Easter. Unfortunately most of the articles sold were of the lower or medium quality, which require a great deal of business to make up a large amount. A good many parcels of roses were sold in our market, although I must admit that it is Antwerp that is most celebrated for this kind of goods, especially the "*douze facettes*," those huge flat cleavages which are made to appear so large, although scarcely thicker than paper.

Silver.

During the past month, silver has again stood at bottom prices, opening at 27⅝d.; in two days it had fallen to 27d., where it stood for another two days; then a slight demand for China and Japan caused a rise, and on the afternoon of the 7th it reached 27⅞d. but fell next day, never again to reach so high, 27⅛d. being the most frequent quotation.

Tin.

There has been a steady improvement in the Cornish metal nearly the whole of the month. It is true it fell from £65 10s. to £64 in the first few days, but it rose again quickly, and, after chopping about a bit, reached £69 before the month was out.

Copper.

The red metal has also shown a rise all through the month, which has been more constant and steady than that of tin, £40 being bottom price, but before the middle of the month it had passed into the forty-one's.

Spelter.

Spelter has been very steady all the month, with a slow 2s. 6d. rise during the first half of the month, and then a corresponding fall.

Mercury.

The mobile metal, on the other hand, has shown a decline, falling from £5 17s. 6d. to £5 10s.

A Superb Chain for Helston's Mayor.

A very elaborate mayoral chain and badge has been designed and executed for the Borough of Helston in Cornwall.

It consists of a badge, large centre link, a central festoon link and a series of thirty-eight shields with ornamental connections, all executed in 18 carat H.M. gold. The shields of the chain, which form a considerable length, are festooned in two rows and will thus give a very handsome effect when worn. On the obverse of the shields are elaborate monograms relating to the donors, and on the reverse are crests, mottoes and descriptions, so that the whole chain forms, practically, a complete epitome of local history. The central festoon link has upon it the arms, crest, and motto of the reigning sovereign, treated in enamel and displayed against a large star of eight series of rays.

Below this comes the centre link of the chain, of a decorated oval form, having in the centre the arms of Cornwall with the motto, "One and All," and over it are the Prince of Wales's feathers and motto, the Prince being also Duke of Cornwall.

The badge itself is an elaborate specimen of work richly decorated, and the crest of the donor is given on a connecting shield. Its chief feature is the enamelled representation of the old Borough Arms—the castle with two towers, bomb proof, on the battlements of which is seen St. George, bearing in one hand the shield of England and in the other a golden spear with which he is transfixing the dragon beneath his feet. A black letter inscription, also in enamel, encircles this escutcheon, a mural crown is above, and the two fine ancient maces of the borough are represented in miniature, in saltire, beneath the arms. The dates of the principal charters, 1200 and 1331, and the name of the borough, are given on enamelled ribbons, a wreath of laurel encircling the whole.

The work has been completed with artistic care, and it will, altogether, form one of the most remarkable chains made in recent years. The commission was given through J. Beringer, jeweler, of Helston, to the well-known firm of T. and J. Bragg.

Birmingham "Faces and Places," of February 1st, gives a likeness of J. W. Jinks, one of the best-known names in connection with the trade's progress, accompanied by a biographical sketch. And what a life it has been! We regret we cannot reproduce the Birmingham account here. We hope to give his biography ourselves some day, when we shall deal with his influence upon the art of the trade since his first connection with the firm of J. W. Bragg and Co., not only in the revolution he introduced in civic jewels, but the subjective effect of his work in connection with the great exhibitions of many years. We once heard the late Sir P. Cunliffe Owen pay the highest possible tribute to Mr. Jinks in connection with these improvers of art and trade.

£405,000 has been spent by the City companies on Technical Education since 1879. So that they do something besides feed upon turtle and 600s. port. It is as well to keep the former fact in mind. Of course, this does not include moneys spent in trade charities.

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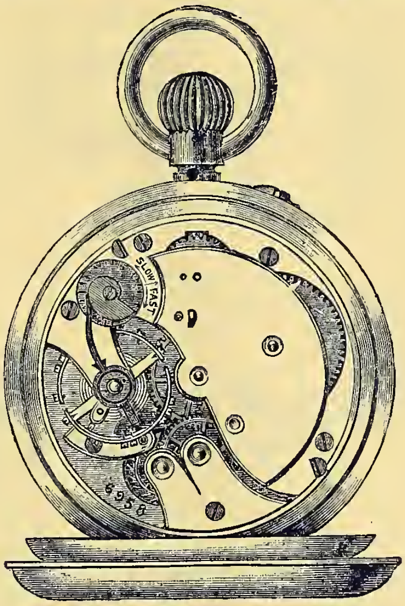

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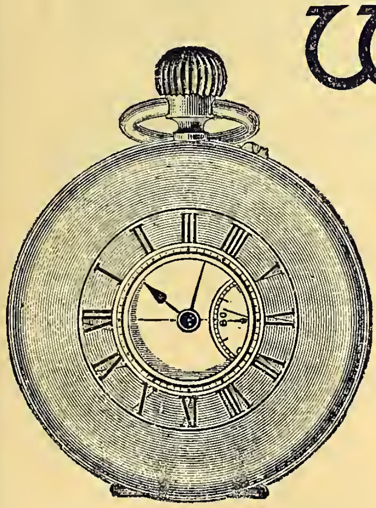

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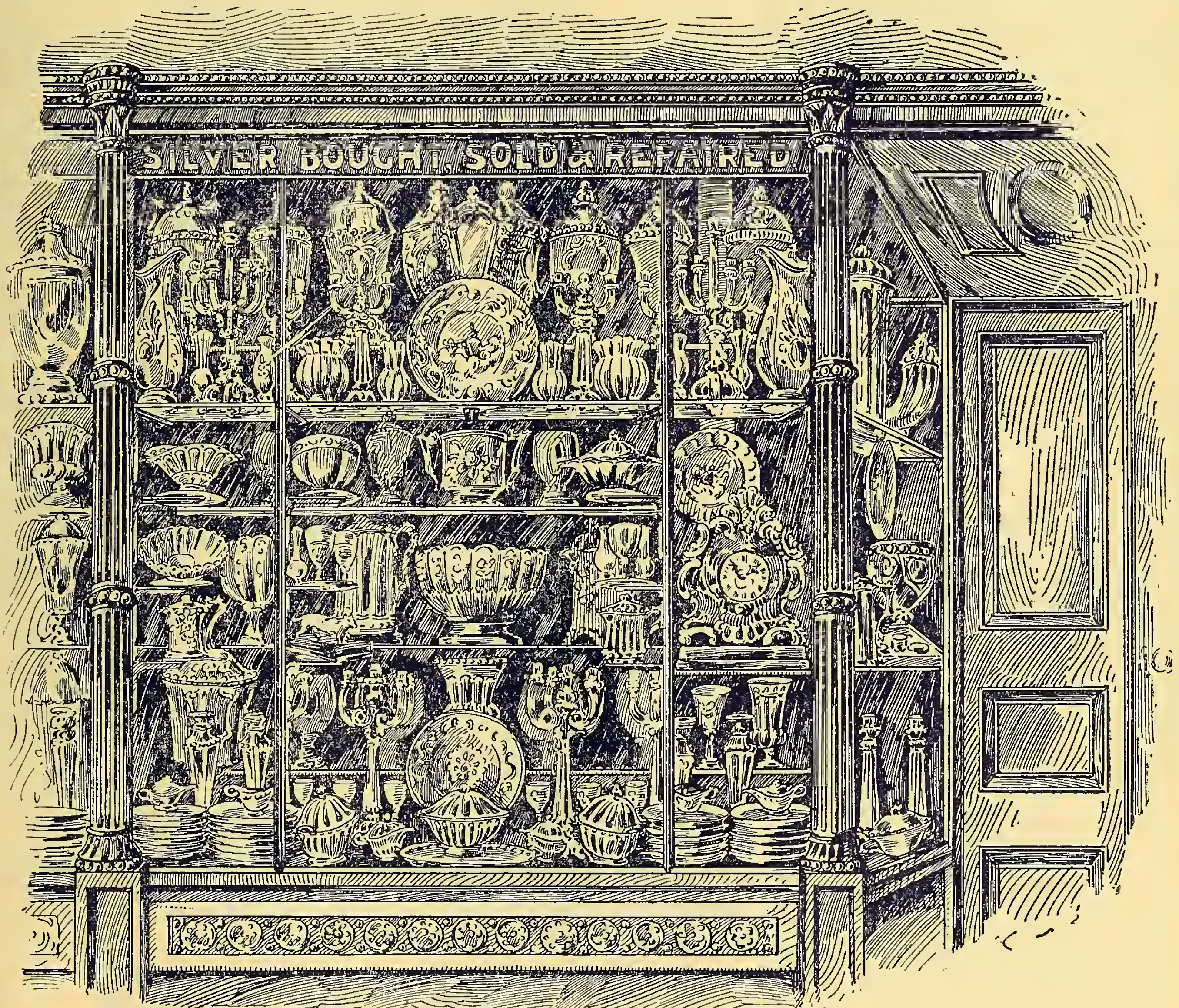
REPRESENTATIVE WINDOWS.

The window we have chosen for illustration this month is that of one of the very foremost houses in the silver trade, and we fear that selecting only one pane of this immense establishment does it less than justice. Moreover, the articles in this window are so extremely large that a proper estimate of size is hardly possible. There is also a side front, thirty yards long, in each of which windows the display is fully equal to that in the pane chosen, differing only in the class of goods displayed. The goods are rather more classified, one window having, say, candlesticks and candelabra, another all massive gold plate, while yet another has choice antique stuff—charming old specimens that would at once command the appreciation of the public and the admiration of the connoisseur. The sight would tempt one to think that our forefathers were a generation of silversmiths, and that genuine antique silver could be had by the cartload. Here may often be seen the choice masterpieces of many of the old masters whose names have become household words in the mouth of the real silversmith. But, alas! we fear that trade now passes more through the hands of silver vendors than through the former wielders of the chaser, and that there is more appreciation of real art in the public—or such of it as make a study of the silversmith's craft—than there is in the average so-called silversmith. But we must not enlarge upon the charming relics of the past that we have seen displayed at this establishment, fascinating as the subject really is, and lest we may appear to mourn for the old flesh pots, it is as well to remark that never in any time was the intrinsic artistic value of the productions of our craft so appreciated as now. Indeed, it has been reduced to a science which has been developing since the first Exhibition, and the evolution of the South Kensington displays.



Reverting to the window illustrated, there is nothing ornamental about it; it is plain, dignified, aristocratic. There are no modern fittings or colored velvet stands; there is no attempt whatever in any way to ornament or set off to the best advantage the massive articles with which the window is full. The shelves are of plain glass, set at the back, so as to allow large articles to stand in the well in front. From the centre bars are hinged angle brackets, carrying black-edged trays, about ten or twelve inches square, supporting a soup tureen, a flagon, or what not.

In the bottom, near the front, stand piles of solid silver dinner or dessert plates; in the upper one will be placed, perhaps, the sauce tureen, spoon warmer, or some other piece of the service; while behind will stand the grand old silver seas made for slices of green turtle to swim in, huge venison dishes, or boar's head stands. Yet further back rise the immense flagons and other pieces of banqueting plate, such as delight the eyes of the Liverymen of the City when they feast in the golden halls of their companies, or such as astonish the eyes of the foreign ambassadors when they are entertained at a State banquet. It will be noticed that they are all arranged so that they can be seen, and although the window is absolutely full it is a fulness that expresses and suggests an unlimited stock rather than a desire to crowd into view and show. All the articles are so simply and plainly placed that description is almost unnecessary. A magnificent rosewater ewer and basin in gilt forms the centre of the bottom, and on either side is a beautiful candelabrum over three feet high. On the side shelf above will be seen a magnificent example of a fine old French ormolu clock, which might have graced the castle of a Court favorite of Louis XVI. This last shelf runs parallel with the doorway, and, with one on the opposite end, leaves the window dressed in three sides of an oblong. On the top shelf a centre is formed by a magnificent silver challenge shield, and rising behind it are immense trophies. Colossal punch bowls, loving cups, jardiniers, candelabra, bumper flagons, and other articles of sideboard and buffet plate, occupy the rest of the window, altogether presenting the art of the silversmith in a quiet, dignified, aristocratic manner, unassisted by the upholsterer, the case maker, or the modern window dresser.

Tickets and Ticket Writing.

BY THE EDITOR.

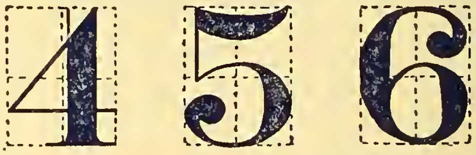
(*Continued from page* 506.)

THE FIGURE 4.—This letter is practically an augmentation of the figure 1. The downstroke is placed entirely in the right half of the rectangle, and the serif and the cross member made to end on the right-hand line of the rectangle. This latter should extend quite across the centre of the lower half of the rectangle; and the left or angular member should extend from the top of the *right* side of the downstroke till it meets the cross line on the outside of the rectangle. It will be seen on reference to Fig. 55 that this character is quite similar to the figure 1 so far as its thickness and form of its serif is concerned, and that the only difference is that the left-hand line forming part of the downstroke is made shorter, to coincide with the angular line which forms the left-hand member.

THE FIGURE 5.—In the construction of this figure proceed as follows: First draw a thin stroke in the top left quaternion, about half the width of a downstroke from the left-hand side; from the top of this spring a gentle concave curve to the opposite top corner. Now start another somewhat similar curve, the distance of the thickness of a downstroke from it, to the same point, which completes the upper member. The lower member is exactly similar to that of the figure 3, only made larger, and continued to the downstroke. Reference to Fig. 56 will show the upper part of this member to rise about a quarter of the way through the upper half of the rectangle on the median line, which forms its highest point. This enlarging of the bottom member gives solidity and extra plainness to the figure.

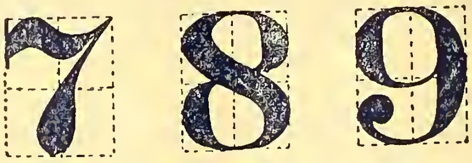
THE FIGURE 6.—In this character we are introduced to what may be called the whole-length curve, which forms the left-hand member of the figure. Reference to Fig. 57 will show how perfectly symmetrical this is, not only horizontally but vertically. Commencing at the junction of the vertical median and top line, the curve springs gracefully to the union of the horizontal and left line of the rectangle; a similar curve is extended to the union of the vertical and bottom line of the rectangle. Now point off the width of a downstroke on the median line, and spring a curve from, and to, the same points as in the latter, and the left-hand half of the figure is completed. Now in the top right-hand quaternion make a serif exactly like that of the upper part of the figure 3—*i.e.*, the same size and length—only reversed. Now draw in the bottom right portion of the figure, as shown in Fig. 57. This latter shows it to be very similar to the bottom member in the figure 5, rising into the upper part of the rectangle, although, perhaps, not quite so much, and its periphery meeting the left-hand side of the rectangle just above the centre of the lower quarter. In the formation of the figures 3, 6, 8, 9, and 0, many writers strike the upper and lower fine curves first, then complete these into the other members, a method to which we often have recourse ourselves, especially in brush work.

THE FIGURE 7.—This letter can be made in two forms. In one the upper member is a simple cross thick line, and the lower a straight, gradually thickening one. In the other form, which is the one we adopt, we proceed as follows: From the top left corner draw a thin line for a serif, about two-thirds of the length of the quaternion; then from the upper third of this spring an "O G" curve over to the top right corner; from another third down the serif spring a second "O G" to the same point as the other, which will make the widest part of the limb of a corresponding thickness to a downstroke. Now produce a slightly curved line from the top right corner obliquely over towards the opposite one; soon after passing the centre sharpen the curve and cause it to meet the bottom line nearly in the centre. Now commence another "O G" curve at the top corner to meet the last on the bottom line, as shown in Fig. 58. The width of this somewhat club-shape member should be equal to a downstroke.



THE FIGURE 8.—The formation of this figure is very like that of the letter S. Instead, however, of finishing with a serif at each end, the member is made to infold in a half-length curve. The thickness of these last two members is exactly the same as any downstroke, the top one being made rather less and the bottom one rather more than the half length of the rectangle, for the sake of appearance, a feature which must be borne in mind when making the large centre "O G" curve. Reference to Fig. 59 will show how the lines of the quartered rectangle will assist in obtaining these correct proportions.

THE FIGURE 9.—This figure, being exactly similar to the figure 6 inverted, both in size, shape, and thickness, as shown in Fig. 60, it is unnecessary to re-describe the method of its construction.



THE CYPHER 0.—This figure being simply the letter O, only slightly compressed or narrowed, for its method of construction reference can be made to the letter O.

(*To be continued.*)

Scent Bottle in an Opera Glass.—A patent has been taken out for a combined scent bottle and opera glass, in which the ordinary focussing stem is made somewhat larger round than usual with a hollow receptacle for salts, over which an ordinary action stopper lid closes.

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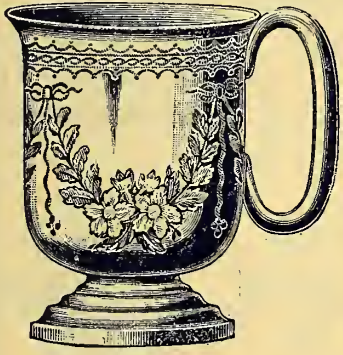
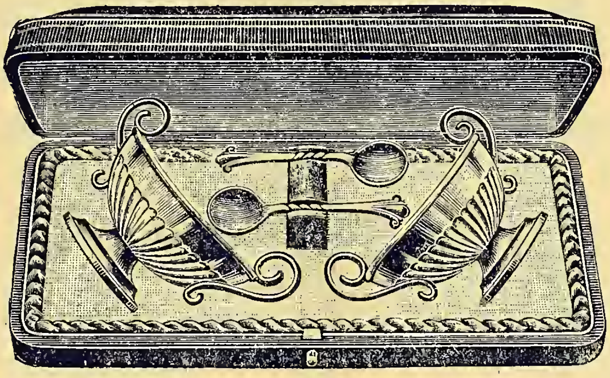
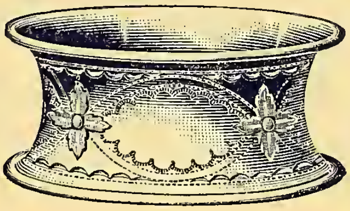
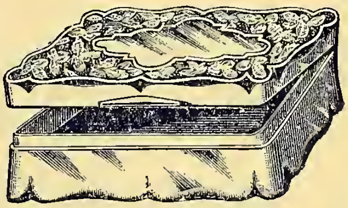


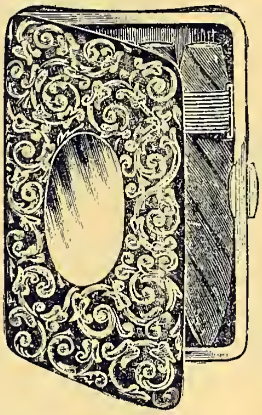






Hall Marked Silver Salt Cellars.
" " Napkin Rings.
" " Fruit Spoons.
" " Fruit Knives.
" " Sugar Sifters.
" " Sugar Tongs.
" " Jam Spreads.
" " Butter Knives.
" " Pickle Forks.
" " Muffineers.
" " Sugar Dredgers.

Price Lists to the Trade on application.



Hall Marked Silver Children's Cans.
" " Knife, Fork, and Spoon, in Case.
" " Corals and Bells.
" " Afternoon Tea Spoons, in Cases.
" " Cigar Cases.
" " Card Cases.
" " Snuff Boxes.
" " Spirit Flasks.
" " Sovereign Purses.

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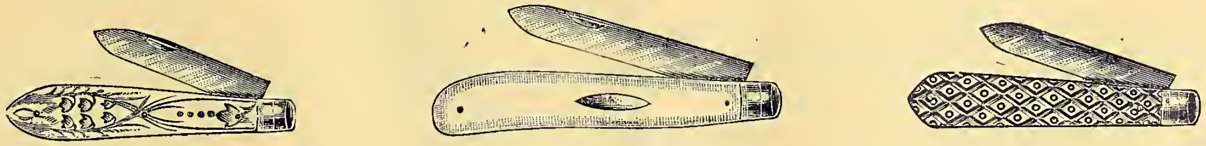

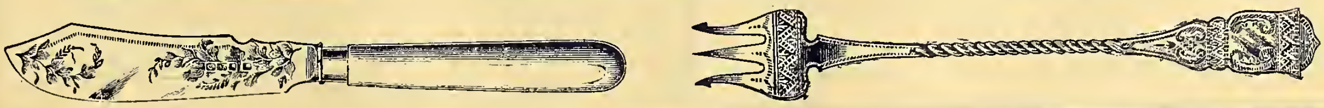

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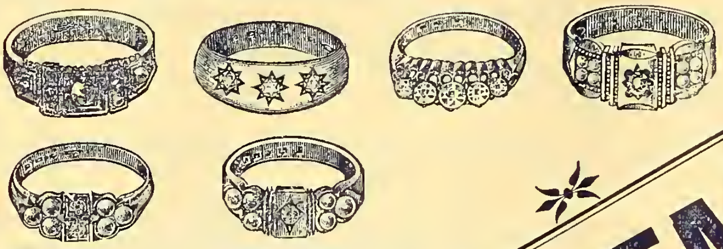

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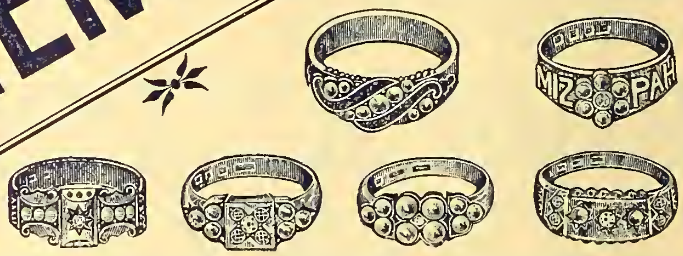

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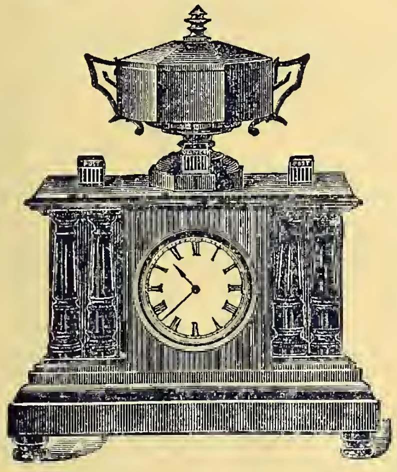
New Designs in Marble, Onyx, & other Clocks.
27, KIRKGATE,
27, WESTGATE, **BRADFORD.**

Things New or Noteworthy

Automatic Memorandum Clock.

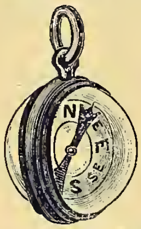
SOME time ago we called the attention of our readers to an automatic memorandum clock, originated by J. Davidson, of Wick. At that time we were impressed with its novelty, simplicity and usefulness. Since then this promising invention has been even further improved, and having passed into the hands of the well-known firm, Gay, Lamaille, and Co., Charterhouse-street, E.C., is now, with all its improvements, one of the most useful and noteworthy articles ever brought to the notice of the trade.



The accompanying illustration shows the clock, which it will be admitted is an artistic ornament for any mantel; the case is well made, and in those we have seen it is constructed of walnut wood; but we suppose it could also be made in marble if desirable. The low vase at the top gives quite a finish to the clock, and appears as a crowning ornament. As a matter of fact, however, it contains the ivory memos which are required to drop at the appointed moment. Upon lifting the lid of this vase a dial is observed, and at the various times at which memos are required to be made are placed the ivory tabs. Upon the arrival of the desired moment the tab falls into the gilt receptacle, and forthwith the bell begins to ring. With an instrument like this one has no need to think about engagements. As necessity arises, all that has to be done is to put in one of the forty-eight tablets supplied, and when the time comes round one may rely upon the reminder. We also find it extremely useful as an office call bell, as by placing the finger upon the receiver the bell rings; while as an alarum it is absolutely unapproached. To enumerate the thousand and one useful purposes for business, private houses, hospitals, and public institutions to which this ingenious invention lends itself would require more space than we can give, but enough, we trust, has been said to point out its usefulness, simplicity, and reliability. The invention is, we believe, perfectly unique, and the only thing of the sort before the trade; it is simplicity itself, and its being manufactured by Gay, Lamaille, and Co. is a guarantee for its quality. We may add that wherever watchmakers are showing these, long Press notices are given throughout the country.

Ball-Compass.

MESSRS. BARKER AND SON, of 12, Clerkenwell-road, the well-known compass and barometer makers, have recently made a novelty in charm-compasses in the form of a crystal ball with the needle pivoted inside, which makes it very effective in appearance and ought to command a large sale. The firm's catalogue of charms, pocket-compasses, barometers, and other of their productions is a useful hand-book of these things, and will be sent post free on application. It includes compass boxes and other fittings employed by jewelers in the manufacture of charms.



Celluloid Watch Protectors.

AT one time we did not feel at all favorably disposed towards these articles, but we are altogether of a different opinion now, and we are certain they have an important future before them. First, they are the greatest protection to watches ever introduced, in every way better than metal cases. They are tougher, resist rougher usage, and are altogether lighter, simpler, and less cumbrous. Further, they fit better than the ordinary metal case, there is no glass to break, and only a fraction of the price to pay. But, of course, there are celluloid protectors *and* celluloid protectors. There is a quantity of foreign rubbish on the market, about which the less said the better. Those, however, made by Rasmussen, Webb, and Co., Charterhouse Buildings, are as near perfection as it is possible to get them. They are constructed with a slight groove and a peculiar "spring," by which they snap tightly on to the watch; they give off no injurious fumes; they are thin, light, transparent, and made of different moulds, to take either ladies' Geneva or English lever models. They are made in either turtle-shell or ivory color, or the back and front are made alike transparent. In the "ivory" ones the name of the vendor is impressed in gold letters on the back, making a very handsome article. The value of these protectors is so obvious that they only require introducing to command a large sale. They are as invaluable to the scientist engaged in almost any line of research as to the humble artisan. Since the manufacture of these superior articles in this country, this firm has been developing immensely, and we recently passed through floor after floor at their premises, filled with nothing but these protectors, which we believe will play an important part in the sales of the future.

The Most "Eggs-act" Time-Piece in the World.

WE do not often indulge in a pun, but the temptation in this case is too great. It is not ours, however, but belongs to an ingenious Ipswich horologer, Mr. Croydon, who has now on show a most novel calendar. It is composed of the shells of seven eggs, each of which is fixed on a perpendicular, revolving wire. In front of each Easter emblem is a fixed pointer. There are three shells in the centre; the lower one indicates the seconds; the one above, fixed slightly to the rear, gives the minutes; and the top one, further back still, indicates the hour. The two on the left show the month and the phases of the moon. The two on the right show the height of the tide and the day of the month.

The eggs are mounted on a plush-colored case, containing the works. The top of this measures about six inches square and about four inches deep, the whole being surmounted by a glass case, and forms a unique and very creditable piece of workmanship.

It bears a label, "We are Seven," "The Latest—Quite Fresh," and "England and America."

John Bull: "What think you of this?"
Jonathan: "Eggs-act."

Always Something New.

WE are often amused at the thought of the variety of the novelties brought out by Henry Steer, of Derby. Now it is a celebrated plate powder, now a patent paper securer, and now it is a "flexible spatula." But this last article calls for more than a passing notice, as it embodies a good principle, viz., making the blade so that it will spread an unguent evenly and not scrape the point and "lay it on thick" lower down, and at the same time not so flexible as to rub it off in the centre and lay it on thick in other places, It is a handy size, well made and finished, and costs about half as much as did the old silver-plated articles.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

To the Editor of the WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, SILVERSMITH, AND OPTICIAN.

Trade Apprenticeships.

SIR,—I have advertised locally for a respectable youth as an apprentice to the watchmaking, jewelry, and optical trades. After the first advertisement I had one applicant wanting to know full particulars, and if a premium to be paid; after my second advertisement I have received similar applications for particulars. But when the boys come to know that they must serve an apprenticeship of from five to seven years, and that wages do not commence at 5s. or 6s. weekly, then their longing to be a watchmaker, jeweler, etc., seems to leave them.

Now, sir, I should like to know whether other watchmakers, etc., experience any difficulty in getting apprentices; if not, I should like to know for how long these apprentices are bound, and what are the rates of wages paid, and whether they are taken without a premium. The premium paid in my young days was £50 outdoors and £100 indoors. Has the watchmaking trade dropped down to such a low level as to teach a lad a trade for nought and pay him a salary for learning? The cry a short time ago was, What to do with our boys? But the boys of this generation will not be bound for any length of time. I asked one applicant what he expected. He replied, "I would not mind being apprenticed for about one year, if I could receive 5s. weekly." I told him a twelve months' apprenticeship to the watch trade would be useless, so he left my shop and I've not seen him since. And even if the lads had been willing to be apprenticed, the parents would not pay any premium. I think it is worth £10 or £20 to teach any lad the watch making trade and its allied branches, but it is evident the parents of boys have not a very high opinion of the watch, clock, and jewelry trade. Perhaps, sir, if you were to insert these remarks, someone in the trade would give their experiences of apprentices, the time they should be bound for, the salary paid, and the premium generally paid.—ANTI-TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

Wanted—A Retailers' Association.

SIR,—Can you inform me whether there is a society for retail watch and clock-makers, jewelers, and opticians to join, its object being to discuss certain grievances we have in the trade, to give each other our experiences of wholesale houses, whether these houses are *bona fide*, or whether they are *pseudo* wholesale houses, etc., and make arrangements for a general boycotting of these houses named by the retail trade. If you can inform me of the existence of such a much needed-society and full particulars I shall esteem it a great favor. Being much in the City, and having to do with a lot of houses, I see and hear a lot and can see through the system of trading of many such houses, and should like the trade to boycott them and see how long they would exist on supplying outsiders only. Certain houses supply drapers with alarm clocks to sell at 1s. 11¾d., and not only drapers, but haircutters, or anybody that comes along and can put down the *lucre*. These houses are not worthy of the name of wholesale, they have no honor as there should be. There should be in every trade a certain amount of freemasonry and only those that know the sign to be able to buy at strictly wholesale prices. All others ought to have to pay extra. Then we should not have drapers and haircutters selling clocks and such like at prices that make it not worth our while to look at the goods, viz., because if we sell a clock we must warrant it, but if a clock is bought at a draper's they do not expect a warranty from him; they well know he has not the brains to make it go to time.—Yours truly, WATCHES, CLOCKS, ETC.

The Good Old Days.

SIR,—In view of the extraordinary and unparalleled low price of silver at the present time, it may be of interest to your readers to contrast the prices now ruling with those of the early part of the present century, and I am sure the perusal of the following letter, extracted from the *Gentleman's Magazine* for August, 1811, will make the reader sigh for the good old days, when the virgin white metal was a comparatively precious and highly esteemed commodity. I give the letter referred to *in extenso*:— August 26th, 1811.

" Mr. Urban,

"As the nominal value of gold and silver very much influences the price of every other article, I am surprised that few or no periodical publications record their rise and fall. I have sent you the present prices, with their difference from those fixed at the Mint; and will, from time to time, acquaint you with any variations that may occur hereafter.

	£	s.	d.	
Market price of Standard Gold per oz. ...	4	17	2	
Mint " " " ...	3	17	10½	
Higher than the Mint price		19	3½	per oz.
Market price of Sterling Silver per oz. ...	0	6	4	
Mint " " " ...	0	5	2	
Higher than the Mint price	0	1	2	per oz.
Pure Virgin Gold	5	6	0	per oz.
Pure Virgin Silver	0	6	10	per oz.

The above prices are what the gold and silver smiths of London pay to the refiner.

N.B.—The last rise in the price of gold was 2s. per oz., and took place August 23rd, 1811. The last rise in the price of silver was 1d. per oz., and took place August 2nd, 1811."

In another place I find a still higher quotation, 7s. 1d. per oz. for virgin silver.

Query: Will these prices ever be quoted again?

ALFRONE.

The Lady Jeweler.

MRS. PHILIP NEWMAN, the lady art jeweler, read a paper on February 27th, before the Society of Arts, on "Goldsmith's Work, Past and Present." We regret that we are not able to report it in full, as it is of extensive length. After giving an outline of the history of the art, she plunged into the more technical details connected with manufacturing, in which ordinary workshop methods were described at length, from the casting of ingots to scratch brushing. Mrs. Newman is a firm believer in apprenticeships; she asks:—"When the goldsmiths who have been apprenticed are all dead and gone, where will the craft be then? The boys 'taken on' will not be of any use; indeed, many of them now, finding it impossible to get their bread with the knowledge they have acquired, go for soldiers, so the little they have learnt is lost. If technical schools would only supplement proper apprenticeships instead of attempting to be a substitute for them, they would do much good. Reading all about an art for a year is not so useful as working with others who know and exercise it for a month. Practice is necessary, has always been necessary, and will always be so. There is no art, craft, or trade where constant practice is so necessary as that of a goldsmith. I know of several goldsmiths now whose technical work is quite equal to that of the best periods, but they have not only served their time, but have lost no opportunity since their apprenticeship expired of learning more about their work. Such goldsmiths are becoming more scarce every year."

She pointed out, that "in the old times, and in all places, there were two separate and quite distinct branches of goldsmith's work. In the one case, the work done for the temples in honor of the cult of the people; in the other, for the houses of their chiefs and kings, and for the adornment of their women; but it seldom happened, until at any rate comparatively recent times, that the secular work was done by the same craftsman as the work for religious purposes."

The works of many nations and craftsmen were referred to in detail, and the interesting paper was illustrated by a series of lantern slides, taken from fine old historic examples of jewelry in the Gold Ornament Room of the British Museum, and other national collections, as well as some from her own pencil and brush, and included specimens of Assyrian, Etruscan, Archaic, Classic, Greek, Roman, Early British, Byzantine, Anglo-Saxon, Mediæval, Holbein's work, and her own. (The Phœnicians, however, were, we believe, left out in the cold.) There was the usual depreciation of modern work, which was ably defended by Hugh Stannus, who pointed out the different conditions under which work was now produced

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SPECIALITIES.

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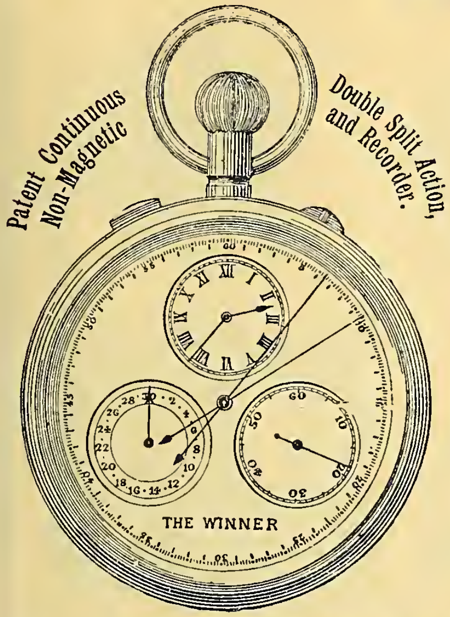
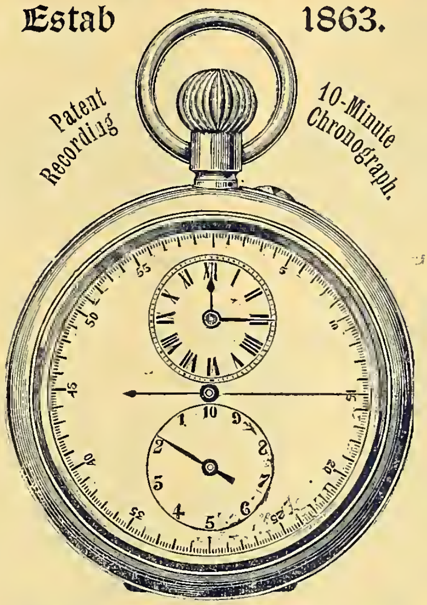
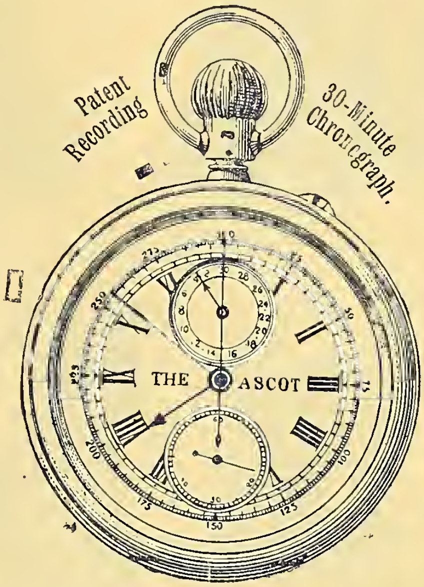

Patent Continuous Non-Magnetic
Double Split Action, and Recorder.
THE WINNER


Patent Recording
10-Minute Chronograph.

THE TATTERSALL.


Patent Recording
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LOWEST PRICES.

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Selection at LIST PRICES.

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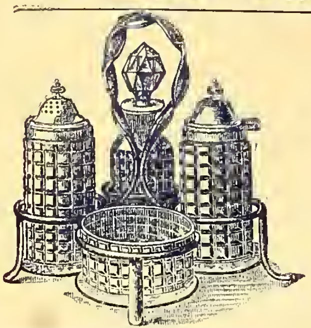
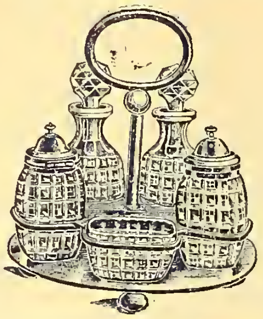
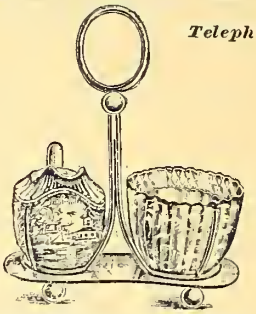
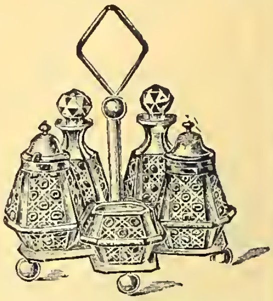
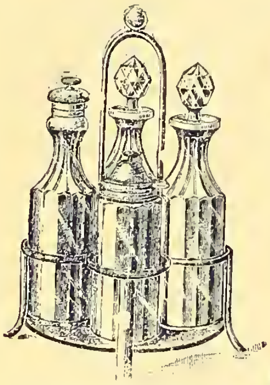
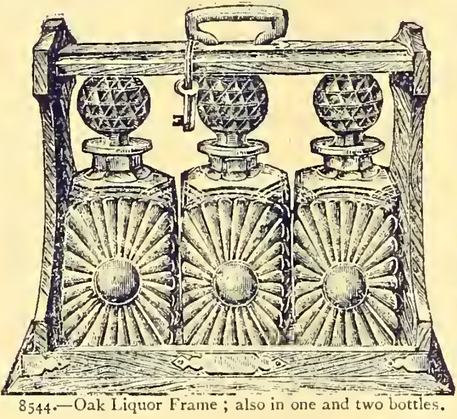

9578.—Plaid Glass Luncheon Cruet.

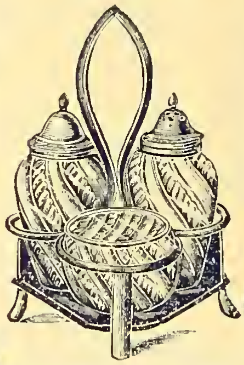

9866.—New Cut Glass, Carlton.

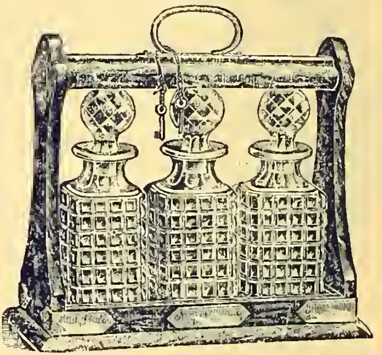

9719.—Sugar and Cream, Willow Pattern Design, Copeland China, all Colors.

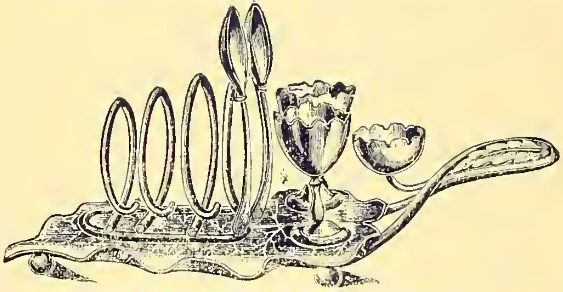

9875.—Fine Cut Glass, Carlton.

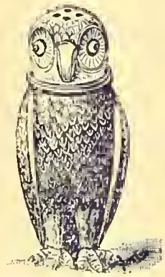

20.—Government Pattern Glass Cruet, and in 5 and 6 hole.

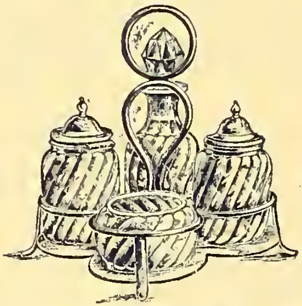

8544.—Oak Liquor Frame; also in one and two bottles.

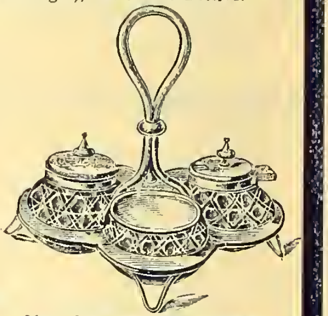

9723.—Breakfast, New Pressed Glass, and an Oval Salt.

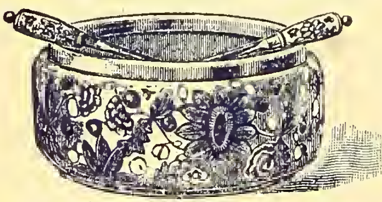

8780.—Oak Liquor Frame, American Glass (Sole Right), and in two Bottles.

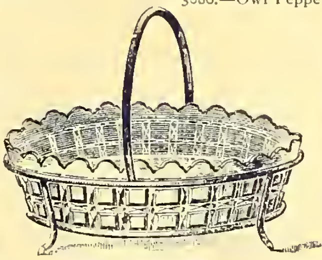

9476.—Toast Rack, Egg and Salt Combination.

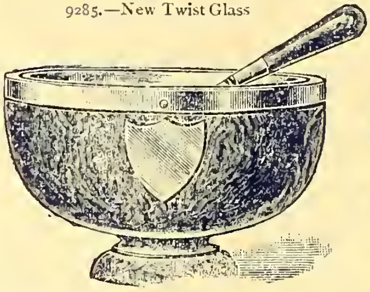

3880.—Owl Pepper.

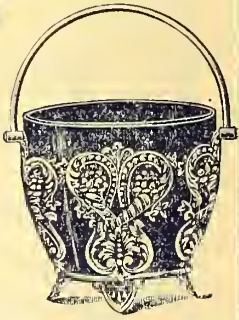

9285.—New Twist Glass

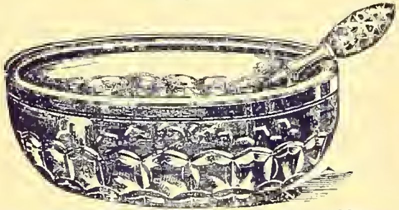

9869.—Cut Glass, New Hobnail, very effective.

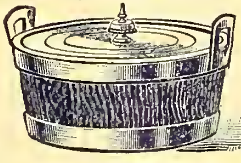

3696.—China Salad with helpers, Crown Derby Decoration.

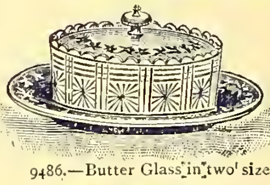

9667.—Glass Jelly.

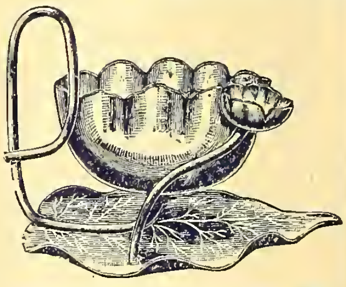

3782.—Oak Salad with helpers.

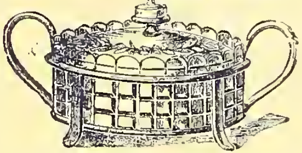

3960.—Sugar Basket, all colors

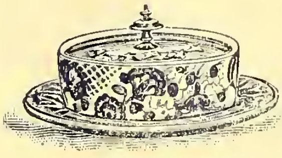

9402—Salad Bowl with helpers, American Glass and in Hobnail.

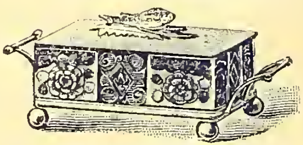

3427.—Oak Tub, Butter.


9486.—Butter Glass in two sizes.


9368.—Lily Sugar Bowl, Gilt inside and Sifter, and in Salt and Egg Racks.


9735.—Plaid Glass Butter, Pressed Ivy Cover.


8539.—China Butter, Crown Derby Decoration.


3824.—China Sardine, Crown Derby Decoration.

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Diamond Field Notes.

(By Vaalite.)

Kimberley, March 2nd, 1894.

The piece of information that is uppermost in my mind at the moment is the strange luck which appears to have turned up at the river diggings. Only recently I pointed out to you how the Vaal River Diamond Company, after twenty months' work, had lost £2,000, and had been obliged to close down their operations, and wait until some one should come along foolish enough to buy their property. The next thing we hear is that gold is discovered close by, and the reef is reported to pass through the old diamond property, but still for all that it is not gold, and the loss of working has yet to be met. In the early part of the year, while the one company was bemoaning its loss another plot yielded a beautiful eighty-two carat sparkler, which brought £1,450 at once. Before the month was out the claim of Jacob Bros. yeilded a ninety-eight and a-half carat gem, and some half a-dozen others are reported of sixty-four, forty, thirty-six, thirty, and twenty carats respectively. If these washings have yielded these gems, a rush may be expected to follow. I have been told, however, that many of the diamonds which for some time have been sold at the river diggings are not river stones at all, but mine stones. If this is the case many of the buyers will have been humiliated, as there is not a dealer here that does not profess to tell a mine stone from a river stone in the dark. But I am informed that for some time past a man who owns a farm near Kimberley Commonage has been aware of the existence on it of the precious sparklers, and before publishing anything about it was anxious to prove what it really was like. Accordingly he has unearthed several thousands of carats of diamonds, but these he has sent down to the river, where they have been sold as " first water " stones. I now hear that there are three Kimberley gentlemen who have formed a syndicate to work the newly-discovered mine. Should this turn out to be a veritable diamond mine, its history will form another variation in the Monte Christo story of the discovery of South Africa's wealth.

This brings me to questions of demand and supply in the king of gems. Most of your readers are, no doubt, posted up to date in connection with the proposed tax on diamonds, but perhaps " as shoemakers' boys and blacksmiths' horses are the worst shod," so jewelers and diamond dealers may be the least informed on the factors which determine the prices of the article in which they deal. When the ridiculous alteration in the American tariff was proposed, it was interesting to see the light in which it was viewed by many.

Even our great Premier was moved by it, and sent the following telegram to the President of the American Senate, at Washington, protesting on behalf of Cape Colony against the proposed tax on diamonds :—" The Tariff Bill now before Congress includes a proposed tax on diamonds which is almost prohibitive. Diamonds are half the export of Cape Colony ; and, therefore, such a tax will, if imposed, materially injure one of its principal industries. South Africa is a progressive country, and draws largely from the United States of America for supplies, with an increasing business. We ask you, therefore, to foster, and not destroy, the commercial relations between us. It was to promote business relations between the United States of America and this Colony that we assisted your World's Fair in Chicago, at great expense to ourselves, and we now ask some consideration from you.—(Signed) Cecil Rhodes, Premier."

It is understood that a reply was sent to Mr. Rhodes to the effect that his communication would be submitted to the Senate Committee ; but that it was probable that the tax on diamonds would not be imposed.

In the meantime the great syndicate foresaw that, should the law pass even in a modified form, there would be a rush to get diamonds into the States before the statute came into operation, and accordingly some very heavy purchases were made, so as to be able to run the stuff into the market sharp, that would be gladly snapped up before it was saddled with the increased import duty.

It is true that prices were a little lower. The outside trade in the meantime had been very slow, as it would not be able to take any advantage of the changing condition, but on the other hand would feel the dropping off which would necessarily follow for a time. Only a short time ago this syndicate was considered not only undesirable but absolutely illegal. This error has been thoroughly exploded in the recent turn of events, as it is shown that these syndicates, whatever may be said against them theoretically, have only been called into existence through the want of business-like speculation on the part of the general trade. Even Mr. Rhodes himself expressed the hope that he should this year be able to throw open to the general trade the competition for their output. But even he cannot do just as he likes. On the whole I hear the prices outside are somewhat weaker on account of less demand. As to the fears entertained and expressed by the Premier, of an extra five per cent. tax "materially injuring half the export trade of the Cape," well, it is about as un-Rhodian as anything I ever read. In the first place the diamonds, instead of constituting half the exports, are really nearer one-quarter. The precious sparklers have been left behind by the ever increasing gold output, and, as far as one can see, every year they will be left behind still further. Then, again, why would ten per cent. increase in the price, when imposed as duty, ruin a trade, when the action of the combine has enhanced the value of the precious sparklers nearly eight times that amount ?

There is a scheme in the air—I can hardly say on foot, as it is all gas at present—to reduce the interest on the De Beers debentures and extend their time, by which an enormous saving would be effected, and it would enable the combine either to pay more dividend or sell at a lower price with the same profit. The jewelers will, no doubt, back the former;

We are thinking very much of the Antwerp Exhibition, at which the Cape will be well represented. Many of the De Beers' things, that attracted so much attention at Chicago, will be on view. But the gold mines will be even better represented than the diamonds. Your readers will then have a chance of seeing specimens of all the reefs of the Rand. The main reef series will include specimens from one end of the reef to the other. The black reef will also be represented, as well as the ones from Heidelberg. There will further be sections, models, and maps of a most elaborate description, as well as an obelisk representing the amount of gold that has been furnished by the Rand. Speaking of gold reminds me of one or two interesting items. The German Government, as you may be aware, has recently sent out experts to collect evidence of the gold-producing capabilities of the various regions of the world, with a view to ascertaining the possible supply in connection with the monetary question. The sage Teuton looks upon the Rand as the first source of gold in the world, and believes the output will double, probably, in five or six years. It is most remarkable to note that the process for which I prophesied such great things before it was adopted, and defended against calumny when it received its first trials, has so far won its way that three out of four parts of all the gold output is obtained by this process, and of the increase 68½ per cent. is due to this wonderful invention. I have as much faith in the cyanide process as I have in the

Rand itself, and I have the best of reasons to believe that in 1895 the output will be double that of 1892.

LATER—

During January Mills produced	99,722	ounces.
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Tailings (formerly wasted)	39,888	„
Alluvial produced	148	„
Banks „	4,722	„
Total	149,814	

So that 150,000 oz. has been practically reached.

I am very interested in the account given by the Editor of the gold in the volcanic rocks from Matabele and Jagersfontein. I find I have a number of more or less similar diorites from various localities carrying free gold, especially from the Salisbury and Monica Gold Fields; so that there can be no doubt about it. I have got the standard metal also in decomposed felspathic rocks. Some of the specimens have assayed over 30oz.

Luther's Wedding Ring.

THE New York *Recorder* recently contained the following article:—A well-known gold ring, with its carving nearly effaced by time, is the wedding ring of the great reformer, Martin Luther, now in the possession of the widow of Baron Hartwig Seeman, of this city. The ring came into the Seeman family in a peculiar manner. A wealthy jeweler and diamond merchant of Stockholm, Sweden, attended the sale of the effects of a Polish lady of rank who had died without heirs, and her property went to the State. Among the articles which the jeweler bought was this ring. He showed it to Baron Seeman, who was high in Masonic circles, and who thought it had Masonic significance from its peculiar carvings. He bought it for old gold. This was in 1867. In 1876 the Baron was in the mountains of Russia with his wife and son. While there the mother borrowed from a German a six-year-old copy of the *Gartenlaube*, and saw in it a description of the ring which they had bought in Stockholm, and read the speculations expressed as to its whereabouts. The article explained how the Kuerfuerst of Brandenburg had had two wedding rings made symbolical of the life and crucifixion of Christ, and had presented one to Martin Luther and one to his wife on their wedding day. After the death of Luther his wife was persecuted by the Papal authorities, and compelled to flee for her life. In this flight her team was crossing a swollen stream, when the equipage was upset, and she barely escaped with her life. The little iron chest with her jewels was lost, aad there was never any record of its recovery, although it must have been found when the stream ran dry in summer. The wedding ring of Luther was in this iron chest. At any rate, in 1877, when the Seemans were in Eisleben, they found that the other wedding ring was in the possession of a local countess. This ring was the counterpart of theirs, and the Lutheran authorities offered 3,000 marks, or about 1,000dol., for its possession. Baron Seeman always wore the ring until he died in Texas a few years ago, first telling his wife never to part with it. The ring must be something over 300 years old. Its carving is worn down smooth, but enough remains to show the design. In the centre is a ruby to represent the blood of Christ. On one side of this, as a centre, is the crucifixion of Christ, with a Roman spear to form the edge of the ring on one side, while a spear, with three sponges, upon which the vinegar was given the dying Maker, forms the opposite edge. Between this and the "tree" is the head of a Roman soldier, worn, but still plain enough to distinguish the helmet. Between the other spear and the cross is the scourge. Below the cross are the three dice which were cast for the raiment of the dying Saviour, while the three nails finish the design. On the opposite side of the ruby is a pillar of the temple, the veil of which was rent in twain, a flaming sword, the ladder which was leaned against the cross, the rope and hammers, and the legend, "I. N. R. I.," over the crown of thorns at the head of the column.

The best way of testing the claims of this to truth is to examine the statement in the light of some of the most important articles that have been written concerning these relics, and leave our readers to draw their own conclusions. Our late esteemed correspondent, William Jones, F.S.A., probably the greatest authority on this subject, was at much pains to bring together practically everything of importance that was known then. In the *Revue Britannique* for January, 1869, the discovery was announced of the two wedding rings interchanged between Martin Luther and Catherine Von Bora, one of the nine nuns who, under the influence of his teaching, had emancipated themselves from their religious vows. She afterwards married Luther. The *Revue* states that the ring of the great reformer is at Waldenburg, and the bride's ring is now in Paris, and that they are similar in composition, the latter being the smaller. They are composed of silvergilt, with a figure of Christ upon the cross, and bear inside the same inscription, "D. Martino Luthero, Catherinan Boren, 13 Jun., 1589." It is further stated that the bride's ring belongs to a Protestant lady, Madame Michael Girod, and was purchased by her at an old curiosity shop in Geneva. Considerable doubt exists, however, as to the authenticity of these rings, a writer in *Notes and Queries* pointing out an evident mistake in the date and the inscription on the bride's ring. "D. Martin*o* Luther*o*, Catherinan Boren," not meaning "Dr. Martin Luther to Catherinan Boren," but the reverse. Another correspondent of the same work mentions that "Luther" rings were made for a jubilee (or tercentenary) at Leipsic in 1825 (which accounts for so many claimants to the originals).

Mr. Noel Humphreys, an authority on these subjects, states in the *Intellectual Observer*, February, 1862, that "the betrothal ring of Luther, which belonged to a family at Leipsic as late as 1817, and is doubtless still preserved with the greatest care as a national relic of great interest, is composed of an intricate device of gold work, set with a ruby, the emblem of exalted love. The gold devices represent all the devices of the 'Passion.' In the centre is the crucified Saviour, on one side the spear, with which the side (of Christ) was pierced, and the rod of reeds of flagellation. On the other is a leaf of hyssop. Beneath are the dice with which the soldiers cast lots for the garment without seam, and below are the three nails. At the back may be distinguished the inside of the ladder, and other symbols connected with the last act of the Atonement; the whole so grouped as to make a large cross, surmounted by the ruby, the most salient feature of the device. On the one side of the ring the inscriptions are still perfect. They contain the names of the betrothed pair, and the date of the wedding-day in German 'der 13 Mnij 1525.' This was the ring presented to the wife at the betrothal, and worn by her after her marriage. The *marriage-ring* worn by Luther after his marriage was still more intricate in its structure. It is an ingeniously contrived double ring, every intricacy and structure having its point and meaning. In the first place though the double ring can be divided so as to form two complete rings, yet they cannot be separated from each other, as the one passing through the other causes them to remain permanently interlaced, as an emblem of the marriage vow; illustrating also the mottoes engraved within them, 'Was Got zussamen füget soll kein Mensch scheiden'—'What God doth join no man shall part.' On the one hoop is a diamond, the emblem of power, duration, and fidelity, and on the inside of its raised (oblong) mounting, which when joined to the other hoop will be concealed, are the initials of Martin Luther, followed by a D, marking his academic title. On the corresponding surface of the mounting and the gem of the other hoop are the initials of his wife, Catherine Von Bora, which on the closing of the rings necessarily lie close to those of Luther. The gem on this side of the ring is a ruby, the emblem of exalted love; so that the names of Catherine and Luther are closely united when the rings are closed beneath the emblems of exalted love, power, duration, and fidelity. There can be little doubt that these curious and interesting rings were designed by the celebrated painter and goldsmith, Lucas Cranach, and possibly wrought by his own hand, the marriage of his friend Luther being a special occasion which he doubtless wished to honor with every attention. Lucas was, indeed, one of the three select friends whom Luther took to witness his betrothal, and who accompanied him to Reichenbach's house, where Catherine resided."

Royal Presents.—By her gift of a diamond scarf-pin to Mr. Leonard Collmann, inspector of Windsor Castle, the Empress Frederick once more exemplifies the narrow limits within which, by the custom of a generation, royal presents are confined. To all intents and purposes a royal gift to a man is either a scarf-pin or a ring; to a woman either a ring or a brooch, not to speak of the tributary shawls. It was a ring which the station-master at Windsor received from the Grand Duke Serge last time, while the station-master at Mortlake wears a scarf-pin presented to him by the Duchess of Teck. Even in acknowledging the exertions of her Majesty's players—whether it be an Irving or a De Lussan—the Queen does not depart from her rule, unless, indeed, she contents herself, as she sometimes does, with a signed photograph. The Georgian present was almost always a snuff-box.

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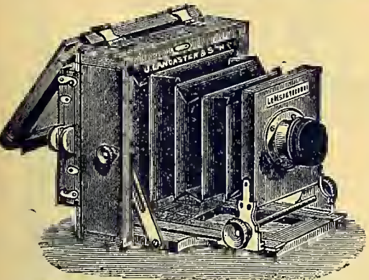
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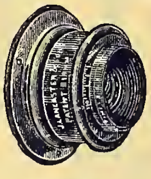

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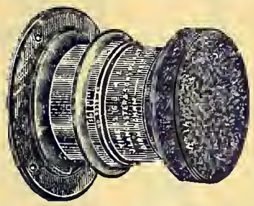

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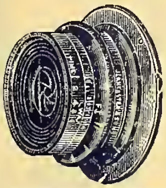

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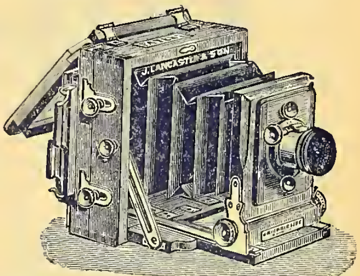
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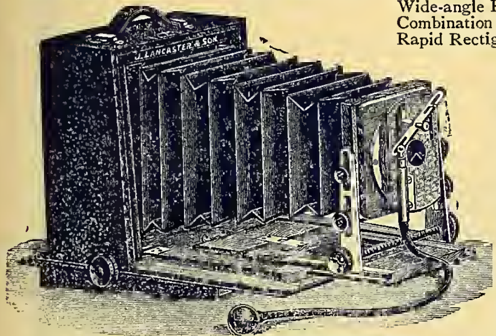
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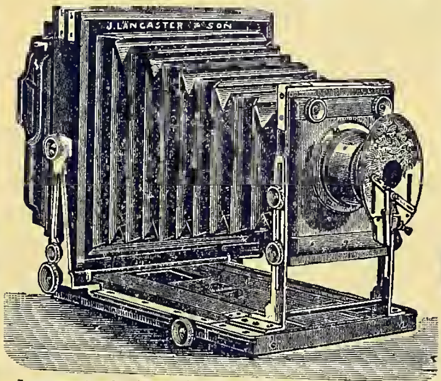
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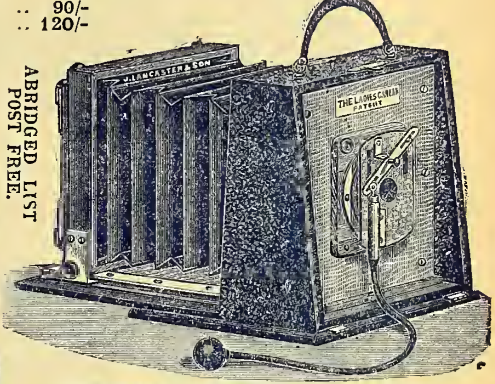
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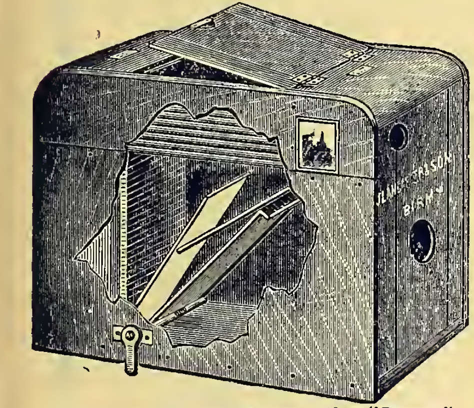
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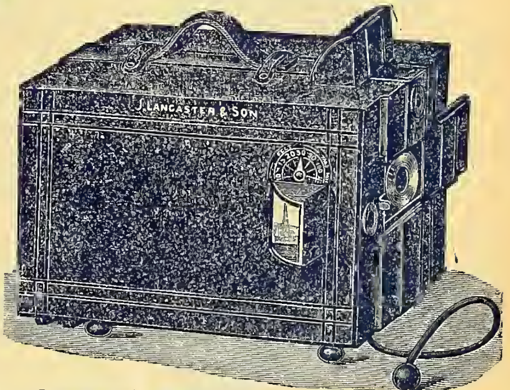
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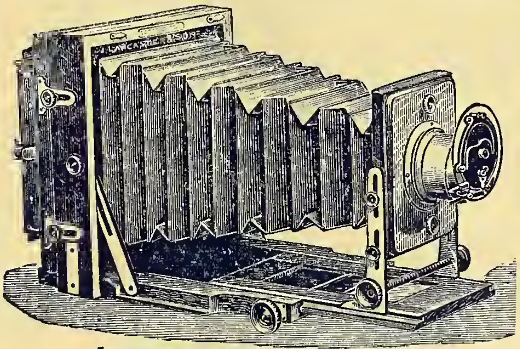

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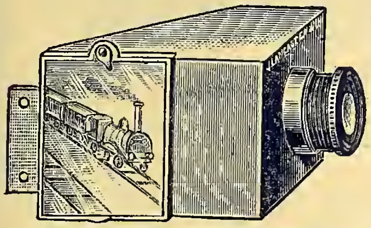

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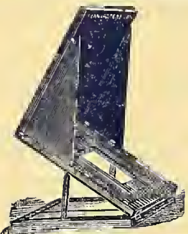

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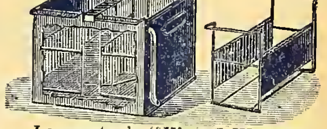

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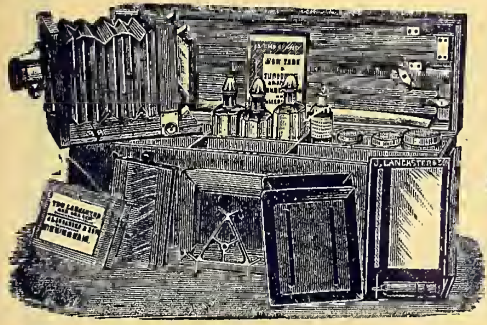
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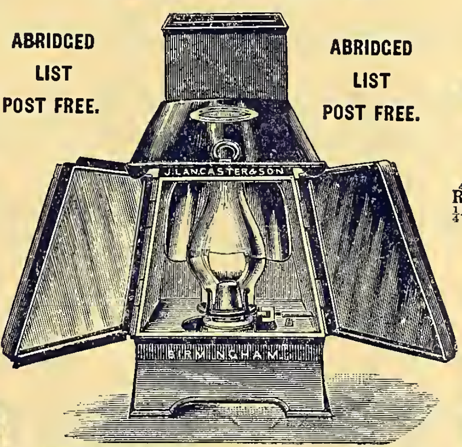
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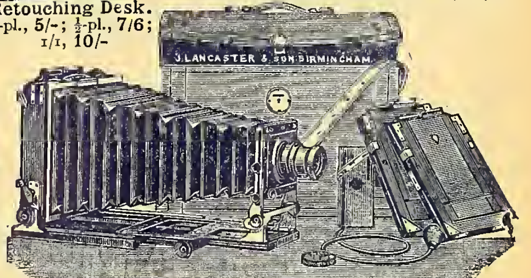
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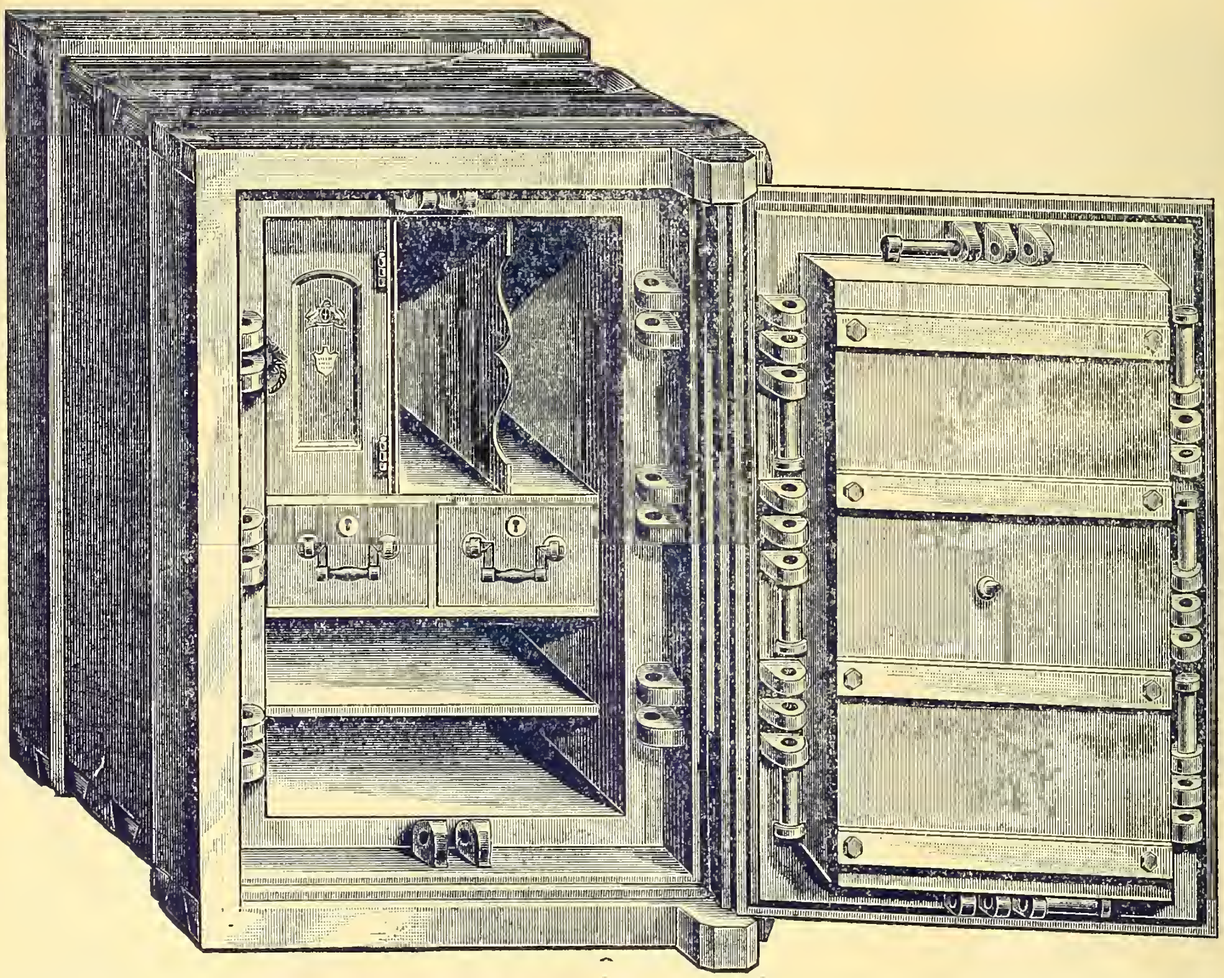

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Transatlantic Jottings.

(By Our New York Correspondent.)

In attempting a clear-headed summing up of the state of affairs all round, I don't feel exactly justified in stating that things have greatly improved since last I attempted my jottings. Most of the travellers are out, but no one is reporting business done, even at greatly reduced prices. There certainly has been, to my mind, an unusual lot of failures, some of which are fairly large ones. The distress in the trade has been very great, but almost every firm throughout the States has contributed, and contributed handsomely, towards the relief association, and much good work has been done, and a great deal of suffering and absolute want alleviated.

The figures of 1893 being now at hand, some comparison can be drawn between the amount of trade done during the past year and the one preceding it, by which we may draw our own inference as to how the balloon is being guided along the aero plain. Hitherto man has been able to land pretty quickly upon the ground from space, but all modern brains have been trying to go straight ahead or even to rise. During 1893 the diamonds and other precious stones, rough and uncut, imported into the States reached a total of only 802,075dol. against 1,032,869dol. of the preceding year, a decrease of over 25 per cent. in values, and, when we remember the increase in price, the difference expressed in carats becomes still greater.

The cut gems and imitations tell the same tale, being 10,022,371dol. against 13,427,774dol. These are really raw materials, and their decrease is greatly to be regretted. The following articles do not perhaps matter so much, but still they tell of the bad times. Clocks, etc., were 166,724dol. against 229,998dol. Watches, 1,465,074dol. against 1,625,650dol. Platinum, 538,478dol. against 564,819 dol. With jewelry, etc., the case is different, figures giving 696,185dol. against 494,530dol.

Coming to the exports, things are much more satisfactory altogether, and we have much with which to be very pleased, and I suppose I may say proud, for our watches have gone up from 167,942dol. to 385,194dol. (more than double). Clocks, however, are a little less, having fallen from 948,616dol. to 919,965dol. Jewelry has increased from 686,567dol. to 1,008,544dol., and plated ware from 316,404dol. to 343,492dol.

The greatest sensation of late has been the Wilson Tariff Bill. The unprecedented turning of the tables on diamonds was, perhaps, without a parallel. Thirty per cent. duty on diamonds was ridiculous; we should naturally have been over-run with contraband trade! the temptation would have been too great. There is no greater curse to trade than the smuggler. Increase tariffs could be met, but the contrabander is beyond reach.

Perhaps the most remarkable phase of this question was put on when the Cape Premier sent the following telegram to the President of the American Senate: "The Tariff Bill now before Congress includes a proposed tax on diamonds which is almost prohibitive. Diamonds are half the export of Cape Colony, and therefore such a tax will, if imposed, materially injure one of its principal industries. South Africa is a progressive country and draws largely from the United States of America for supplies, with an increasing business. We ask you, therefore, to foster and not destroy the commercial relations between us. It was to promote business relations between the United States of America and this colony that we assisted your World's Fair in Chicago at great expense to ourselves, and we now ask some consideration from you."

The duty on unset diamonds has since been reduced from 30 to 15 per cent., and on set diamonds from 35 to 30 per cent. Diamonds in the rough are to be admitted free, and the duty on pearls has been reduced from 15 to 10 per cent. The duty on spectacles, opera glasses, optical instruments and pebble or glass lenses has been reduced from 35 to 30 per cent.

The Elgin Watch Company have recently made important reductions in the prices of the various parts and fittings of their watches. This no doubt will meet with great approval at the hands of retailers and repairers, as things have been in a very unsatisfactory state for a long time. The fact is the Elgin Company have been making reductions all along to the factories and jobbers, but these have not always made the same difference in prices to the repairers; hence there has been no settled and absolute price throughout the trade. This state of things will now be altered; a list of reduced prices has already been published, in which the prices are cut so low that the company anticipate that no attempts will in future be made to tinker with their excellent productions.

The American Horological Society is progressing favorably and fast, and its members appear determined to make it an ideal institution. The names of prominent members of the trade are continuously being added to its lists, and valuable donations and loans to its library and museum are made at nearly every meeting. Recently, one newly-elected member deposited nearly one hundred volumes and a number of antique watches in the library and museum. This is what has long been wanted. We ought to be able to get together a copy of every book ever written on horology, and an example of every kind of work ever employed in the science.

I feel afraid to spread further a report which is now circulating on this side, to the effect that "a bed of rubies of excellent quality, and many of them of unusually large size, has been discovered in Starner Idaho," in case it is worth what you have shown so many similar reports to have been, despite the loyalty and good wishes of our trade Press. Another reputed find is "an immense opal as large as a hen's egg, without a flaw, which, when cut, will weigh 300 carats." This is from Caldwell in the same State.

The new Diamond Exchange buildings in Maiden-lane rise like an immense cathedral spire over everything else. The first and second floors have large full front plates, but each of the succeeding stories have double bow windows, until the top but three is reached, when two balconies follow the bows. To the next floor there is also a large balcony. The Exchange is a most imposing structure, and is calculated to make the trade very prominent. The building is fire-proof and quite up to date in everything. Rents are from 900dol. upwards.

Several of the clock companies are turning out beautiful "Marbeloid" clocks; no doubt they have by this time reached Britain, as they have been exporting them since last year. The new timesters are made of cast iron, and look just like the finest marble. The first productions were plain, but now ornamental colored marbles are introduced, with ormolu mounting, of the Louis' periods. I think your readers will admit that some of them are about the most taking things we have turned out for many a long day.

Montana is making a big show at the Californian Midwinter Exposition, where, according to the catalogue, they display 40,000 carats of rubies, opals, and turquoises. Altogether there are some 600 cut gems, valued at 5,000dol. Not a very large figure for the weight, it is true ; especially when we remember it is but an *estimate.* There is nothing said about the " true pigeon's-blood color of the rubies," but one sapphire is said to be a dark blue, and to weigh 5¾ carats. The collection of gold nuggets and crystals, I am informed, is simply charming. Localities are by no means plentiful on our planet where the conditions of gold depositing have been favorable to the formation of the flowers of the mineral world, and I think, Mr. Editor, that with your love of crystals from your connection with gems, if you had only seen the World's Fair exhibit it would have made a life-long impression on you, as there are many unique productions in the States.

An enterprising Boston watchmaker has brought out an idea which has taken on well. Customers pay down two dollars insurance per year, and then, no matter what happens to the watch, he guarantees it to keep in time for twelve months, no matter what may be the defect, whether accident or disease. If it requires regulating one has only to take the erring timester and have its motion altered. If one falls overboard and does 25dol. damage, he pays no more.

I must say this man has a good opinion of watches ; there are many that I would not like to keep in order, or to spend the time over them that is requisite to make them approach anything like timekeeping, for 2odol. a-year. Still he says it pays. He also holds out that his method of business will generally result in the discovery of a lost watch, as every watch upon which a 2dol. policy is issued is duly entered and described in his book, and a label placed inside it, asking the finder to return it to him in case it should be lost. This firm also claims to be the largest repairers in the States ; they keep fourteen skilled hands employed on repairs, and have often 1,000 watches at once belonging to their customers. From this your readers will be able to see how the English firms compare with those on this side.

When your readers call to mind the remarks of the *Spectator* in 1887 : "We confess we were surprised and astonished to find at the Paris Exposition that a New York firm, Tiffany and Co., had beaten the old world in domestic plate," they will realise the importance of this great firm. Things are different on this side altogether from London. I am fully aware that if there were going to be an English Exposition, several of the very highest firms probably would not exhibit at all. Still, it would be admitted by all who visited New York that there is only one Tiffany's in the world. If one would like to know more of the history of this remarkable firm, a forty-three page book has just been issued, giving some account of its history. Englishmen will read with pleasure that the original Squire Humphrey Tiffany was an Englishman.

A curious case recently occurred in Maiden-lane. The proprietors of Nos. 5 and 7, wishing to make themselves seen and not heard, decided to paint the outside of their premises a bright orange color. Now, this was all very well to those inside, but the half-dozen diamond merchants opposite immediately found their stock all smitten with the jaundice, the electroplate, and silver trades contemporaneously having their wares transmuted into brass. All the aggrieved ones met and explained matters to the innocent offenders, who expressed sorrow for what they had done, and promised to substitute a paint of a milder hue.

Turquoise buyers will hear with some interest that in the statements connected with the failure of Andrews and Doty, it was put that the firm hold 25,000 carats of the blue gem, as security for 20,000dol. from the American Turquoise Company.

LORD DERBY AND PRESCOT.

There was a very interesting gathering on the 18th ult. in the library of old Knowsley Hall, near Prescot, when the chairman of the Prescot Local Board presented the watchmakers' peer-patron with an illuminated address of welcome and congratulation. In reply Lord Derby pointed out that however glad he was to find himself once more, after five and twenty years' absence, in what was his old home, still that feeling was deeply tinged by a sense of the loss which not only the family, but also the country, and especially the county of Lancaster, had sustained in the death of his brother. He was, as all knew, above all things, a Lancashire man—anxious to do his work, anxious to do his duty in the path that lay before him, not covetous of honors, but desiring to discharge rightly—of acquitting himself rightly-of those responsibilities which circumstances had placed upon him, and desirous of devoting his great energy and great talents to the welfare of his fellow countrymen, and of his fellow man. Perhaps for his brother it was less difficult than for others to understand the feeling with which they were good enough to desire to greet the one who succeeded him. There had been, he was thankful to say, as the address, indeed, recited, always the warmest and firmest feelings of friendship between his own family and the town of Prescot. That connection and those interests he hoped the hand of time would strengthen rather than impair, and he was certain that so long as the present representative of the family was there they would find not even amongst his predecessors anyone who desired more earnestly an opportunity given to evince those feelings of what he hoped he might call mutual friendship and love. He could not but feel thankful that against many sins of omission or commission he might set some little good done in respect of his labors at Prescot. He could assure them, although he had left his home for many years, and had made himself a home elsewhere, and being one of the younger sons could hardly expect ever to be there again, still the kindly recollections of old times and the appreciation of the ability which existed, and especially in the one particular line of industry (the watch trade) they had recited, in the town of Prescot, it was that feeling which made him desirous of an opportunity being given to try what could be done by legislation which is not often successful in such cases, to restore the trade which circumstances had somewhat removed from Prescot. He was very much touched to see on the other side of the Atlantic a report, which some one was good enough to send to him, that the success of the legislation was brought out by the fact of the establishment of the Prescot Watch Factory. It was, when he was a boy, a great industry in that part of the country. Prescot, as many of them knew, was renowned throughout the world in its particular branches of watch manufacture, and he hoped to see the time, although machinery and other circumstances had brought us into much more favourable competition—he hoped to see the time when Prescot would not only hold its own, but lead the way as before. (Hear, hear.) There seemed to be good earnest of that in the watch factory, which he had as yet only partially seen. Still, the watch factory showed that there is a desire to adopt the most recent and improved machinery, and, if possible, give Prescot every advantage in the way of leading the watch trade and industry among many others, for other industries are sure to flock around a successful one, which in time to come will still further develop ; and he was certain, in feeling and in fact, that they would find there was no one more desirous of the progress of the town of Prescot than their neighbour who was then thanking them for their kindness. He also thanked them on Lady Derby's behalf for what they had been good enough to say with respect to her. They had, since their return, not only there but elsewhere, met on all occasions with a warm-hearted welcome, such as could only be given in the county of Lancaster, and he should indeed be culpably indifferent—an indifference to which he did not pretend—were he to be at all insensible of the kindness which, not only here but on every other occasion, had characterised the welcome which he had had from old friends alike and from new friends since his return to Lancashire after so many years' absence. It had given him the very greatest possible pleasure to receive them there that afternoon, and he hoped that, though the first of their formal meetings, it would not be the last, by many, of formal and informal occasions upon which they might exchange with advantage their views and ideas regarding the welfare and prosperity of their fellow-countrymen.

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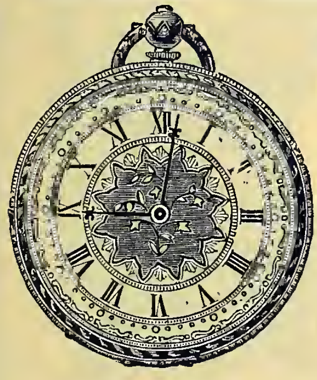

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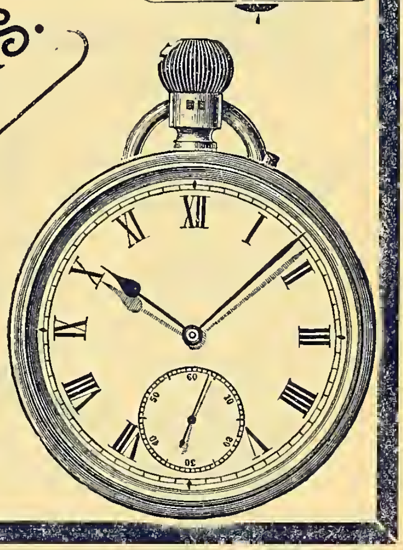

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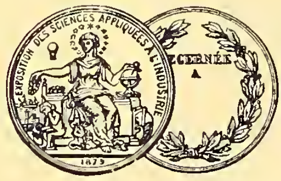
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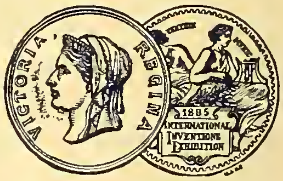

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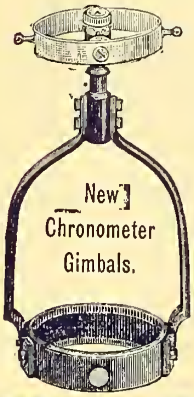

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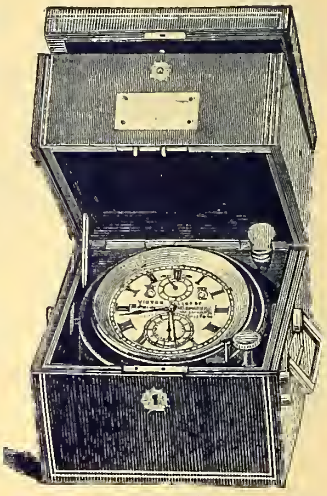

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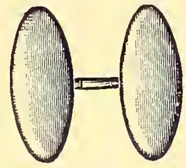

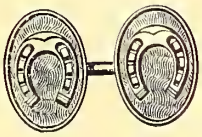

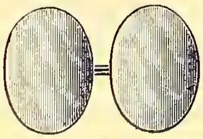

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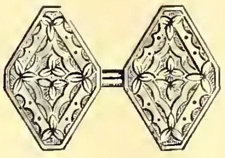

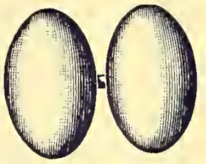

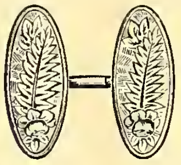

THE "CASTLE" LINK

JONES'S PATENT.

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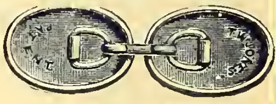

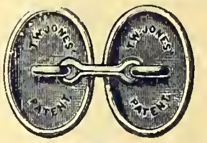

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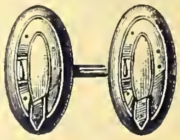
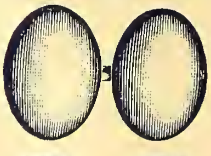
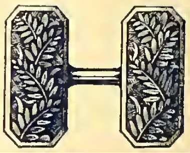






In and Out of the Courts.

Further Victimizing Jewelers.

WHEN a rascal wishes to proclaim himself an Anarchist, he deliberately smashes the plate-glass window of the first jeweler he comes across. When a tramp finds the casual wards full he does the same. When a laborer realises himself out of work, while others are working, he also feels justified in visiting his wrath at the expense of the man of gems! Nor does the list end here! The other day, it appears, two privates belonging to the East Lancashire Regiment, in order to escape being sent abroad on foreign service, smashed the windows of a Folkestone jeweler on the eve of the departure of the regiment, so that they might be locked up and sent to prison, and so avoid the ocean voyage. Happily their plans miscarried. The magistrate imposed fines, instead of imprisonment, which were paid by the officers, and will be deducted from the soldiers' pay. The latter were immediately packed off by the next train to join the ship. At the same time it is to be deeply regretted that the poor jeweler should be made the scapegoat of every imaginary grievance against the powers that be.

Soldiers Again Turn Grab-thieves.

RECENTLY two privates of the Coldstream Guards, stationed at the Royal Borough of Windsor, entered the shop of William Schmid, jeweler, William-street, Slough, and asked to see some metal chains. When these ornamental appendages were placed before them, they deliberately placed two in their pockets and decamped. They were, however, pursued, caught, and brought to justice, and fined 15s. each, or, in default, fourteen days' hard labor.

An Old Trick Ingeniously Re-vamped.

THE familiar trick of finding of a "diamond" ring before one, and selling it to them for a trifle, is getting rather worn out. A new edition of this fraud has recently been practised in the Midlands, which brings the jeweler into it. A man calls at various houses to sell mats, and having failed to effect any business, produces a piece of paper with some writing upon it, wrapt round a ring. "Would you be good enough," says this unable-to-read trickster, "to tell me, if this is a name and address, if it is, I will send them this ring I have found." Upon being told that it is neither name or address, but merely the receipt for 2s. 6d., repairs to gold ring, despairs of ever finding an owner and offers to sell it for 2s. 6d. Sometimes the prize is bought in the belief that it is a bargain, at others with the idea of finding an owner; in other instances the jeweler is visited, when it is discovered to be a worthless bauble! One man now awaits trial at Leicester upon several charges of this kind.

Such Innocent Confidence!

THE confidence of the women in the above case pales before that recently displayed by Alfred Reed, a St. Austell jeweler. This gentleman was content to let the wife of a travelling razor-grinder have goods of the value of £57 to show to a supposed customer, whose name she declined to disclose What is equally remarkable she returned £34 worth of them; but instead of leaving the money for the others she took train in an opposite direction, and having got to Plymouth, pawned two watches and two chains and took the boat to Jersey. But telegraphy is even swifter than steam; so that the police were able to apprehend her on her arrival at the free Island, and return her to St. Austell.

Never Dispense with Job Receipts.

ONE of the sharpest pieces of business was recently transacted at a Forest Gate watchmakers that one often hears of. A young lady engaged at a post office probably inadvertently remarked that her watch was at Mr. Wilkinson's. Subsequently a young man entered the shop of the horologer and ask him if he would send to the Post Office at once for a clock which required repairing. The thoughts of a job from the Post Office immediately associated the young man with that establishment in the mind of the watchmaker. "You have," continued the messenger, "a watch belonging to one of the young ladies, which I was asked to bring back with me." "Oh yes," said the unsuspecting tradesman, and handed him over the time-keeper. But instead of taking it to the before-named young lady, the clever deceiver paid a visit to an avuncular relative and asked upon it a redeemable-at-option loan of 25s. Now it so happened that the horologer soon recovered from his attack of unwonted confidence, and his heart repented that he had parted with the timester. By that mystic influence which sometimes operates upon us entirely against our own will, he was directed to go in search of the man with the watch, and just as mysteriously he was directed to go to the pawnbroking establishment, just before money had passed, whereupon business was interrupted, and the would-have-been-pawner was taken into custody.

A Bad Beginning.

RECENTLY a gentlemanly lad, sixteen years of age, succeeded in inducing a Glasgow jeweler to allow him to take away £160 worth of watches on approbation. It is not greatly to be wondered at that the temptation to the youth was too strong, and that he should have yielded to the idea of pawning the watches. Quantities of valuables like this should be sent direct to the principals. Council tried to bring it under the First Offenders Act, but the judge declined, and sentenced the lad to three months' imprisoment.

Another Case of Young Offenders occurred at Sherborne.

IN this instance, a lad, Edward Legg, was in the employ of R. Adams, jeweler, of Sherborne, and being allowed access to some of the stock, the boy took one gold and one silver watch. He was then joined by another youngster, and both proceeded to Yeovil with their booty and endeavoured to dispose of it. They were taken into custody; but dealt with under First Offenders Act.

The Constable had his Eyes Open.

RECENTLY a Silsden policeman noticing a profusion of jewelry on a man ventured to stop him, and asked him to give an account of himself, and further began to search the wayfarer, when twenty scarf pins, six pairs of sleeve-links, three pairs of gold earrings, two brooches one pendant, half-a dozen chains, and numerous other articles of jewelry were found upon him. It was afterwards discovered that an entrance had been forced into the Silsden Mechanics' Institute, in which place the jewelry had been deposited pending a sale. Prisoner was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

A Watchmaker has Recourse to Arms.

FELIX LECLUSE is one of three brothers, who, not feeling satisfied with the way it pleased their departed father to leave the business, had recourse to the law. But Felix was not altogether content with the way things were going, and so, without warning, on a morning in February, drew out a pistol and shot his brother Alphonse. Fortunately the wound was not fatal. He has been sentenced to three months' hard labor, and ordered to find two securities of £50 each to keep the peace, and himself in £100 to be of good behaviour.

Unsuccessful Action Against a Jeweler.

ON a January evening there was a little disturbance in the shop of Henry Tice, a jeweler, of 11, Park-walk, London, W., and as is usually the case under such circumstances, a crowd began to assemble outside. This caused annoyance to the man of gold, who went out, and tried to disperse the people that had congregated. Finding that nobody took any notice of his admonitions, the jeweler became excited; and in a few minutes we find him engaged in a fight with a passing coach-smith. Here Tice appears to have got roughly handled, but in another minute the smith was on the ground, unable to rise. Subsequent surgical examination showed that the smith had sustained a fracture of the ankle, but that as no bruise occurred over the injury, the damage appeared to be the result of a slip. Then followed an action, witnesses were called to state that the jeweler broke the ankle by a kick, and others that he did not; and as the latter were supported by the surgical evidence, a verdict was given for the jeweler. Moral: Don't turn policeman where police rates are paid.

Ringing the Changes.

RECENTLY the keen eye of Mr. Ryan, a jeweler of College Green, Dublin, espied outside his establishment a young gentleman scanning the contents of his window after the manner of a customer, and accordingly the man of gems made ready for emergencies. Presently the gentleman entered, and said he wished to purchase an engagement ring, and a tray of these articles was placed before him. Whilst examining the engagement sealers he managed to replace one of the diamond rings with a counterfeit, but not cleverly enough to elude those eyes that had been on him so long. As soon as the thief found his trick had been discovered, he dashed out of the shop, and unfortunately this time he was too quick for the jeweler.

Burglaries Abound.

AS a North London constable was going his round the other night, or rather early morning, he noticed that the holes in the shutters of the shop of R. W. Galer, jeweler, Stroud Green-road, London, N., had been covered from inside. The astute defender of property immediately obtained assistance, and proceeding to the back of the establishment mounted the sky-light, from which position he espied two intruders busy in packing up booty. Now it so happened that this officer of the law was rather corpulent, and the bars of the sky-light rather close: therefore there was nothing to do but to call upon the two burglars to come up and be taken, an idea, of which they, of course, made fun. This, however, was too much for the constable, and urged on by his sense of duty and the insolence of the crooks, he tried to squeeze his large body through the narrow opening between the bars, with the result that of finding himself suspended in mid-air, unable to get either up or down. Finally assistance was procured, and the theives were made to ascend their rope by which they had entered, and were marched off triumphantly to the police station. Bravo constable !

RECENTLY a man was found on the premises of Cowan and Co., London-street, Airdrie, N.B., and forthwith taken into custody and brought to justice. Sentences of five and seven years having been proved against him, he was condemned to twelve months' imprisonment, under the Prevention of Crimes Act.

A LOCK-UP shop belonging to C. C. Darling, jeweler, 272, Shalesmore, Sheffield was left safe as usual on a recent evening, and the next morning it was found to have been looted, and not a trace of the burglars left behind. In a few days a man paid a visit to Jacob Seegar, a watchmaker, of 38, Scotland-street, and offered to sell something. But the horologer was too astute, and succeeded on getting the man to bring practically all he had, in the mean time communicating with the police. When the man came the last time he was accompanied by another, but instead of the stolen goods passing hands a constable was called in, and both men conveyed to the station. When charged they had a tale ready, viz., that one of them saw a man hide the property on some waste ground, and after he had gone, they went and took it, and attempted to sell it. Both prisoners were committed for trial.

JOHN FINLAYSON is a wise watchmaker of Warrick-street, Warrington; (the alliteration is, of course, accidental) and to protect his valuables keeps a large watch dog. The other evening the burglars commenced operations by cutting a pane of glass in the scullery window in the rear of the house ; whereupon the wide-awake watch dog of the wise watchmaker of Warwick-street, Warrington, set up such a barking that the burglars beat a retreat to another shop, where a dog was not kept, and where they were perfectly successful.

A Very Sad Case.

WILLIAM HENRY SHRIMPTON, of Mossbury-road, Clapham, was recently charged with neglecting to maintain his wife and five children, whereby they had become chargeable to the Wandsworth and Clapham Union. The prisoner, it was stated, was formerly manager of a large firm of jewelers in Piccadilly, but he relinquished his connection with that business three years ago possessed of nearly £2,000. Since that time he, according to the statement of Mr. Charter, who prosecuted, had given way to intemperance and neglected his family. His home was sold up, and the family were driven into the workhouse. The magistrate hesitated to send the accused to prison, and remanded him again, to enable him to remove the charge ability.

The "Star" and Watch Tallymen.

THE well-known newspaper, the *Star*, is continuing its crusade against watch and jewelry tallymen, and is exposing every case of imposition and extortion of which it can hear. It is a pity the *Star* did not rise a quarter of a century earlier, and pour its silvery light on the bargains made at kitchen doors with guileless maids.

Wholesale Shoplifting.

HENRY HICKSON is a young man of 20, who occasionally has worked as a tailor, but conceiving that money might be made quicker by shop-lifting than by the use of the needle, he forthwith set out on a light-fingered campaign, and although he soon found himself in prison it must be admitted that lately he has been very successful, for he managed to get possessed of a number of valuable articles of diamond jewelry before he was caught. On February 15th, he paid a visit to Mr. Snowden, of Cheapside, and asked to see some scarf-pins ; nothing among the articles shown met his approval, and he left without making a purchase, but promised to return on the following Saturday. As soon as he had gone it was discovered that a diamond ring had also gone. On the following day he visited neighboring jewelers, Messrs. Wales and M'Culloch and again requested to be shown some pins and, not being satisfied with what was shown him, asked to have one made by the following Tuesday. After this, information reached Messrs. Wales and M'Culloch from their neighbor which led to the unpleasant discovery that the former had also missed something in the shape of a stud pin valued at £30. On the following day the knight of the pins visited the establishment of J. W. Benson, Ludgate Hill, and here requested to see a horseshoe pin, but his wish for a particular style of article was soon met by the production of the stones, and he was obliged to give an order and leave a small deposit. This, however, did not prevent him converting to his own use a convertible stud pin to the value of £21, which, unfortunately, was not missed till afterwards. The success of this light-fingered gentleman is a cutting satire on the organisation of our trade. Again and again, shoplifters have "done" Ludgate-hill one or two houses a day, without being caught ! whereas if a simple union existed in the trade, and an agreement to let each other know directly either had sustained a loss, or had been visited by a suspected person, all the greater part of these systematic robberies would become impossible. But shoplifters soon find out the existence of this want of organisation, and therefore proceed with cool impunity. This lover of diamonds has, however, been run to earth, and now awaits his trial.

He Didn't Like the Jewelry Trade.

HENRY FRANCES, otherwise R. Clarkson, although he has lived sixty-three years, and undergone various terms of penal servitude, once more turned his back upon his old trade and set up bogus loan offices, and has been awarded an engagement in penal servitude for seven years. The jewelry trade may be bad just now, but it will always be better than prison life.

Robbery by a Clerk.

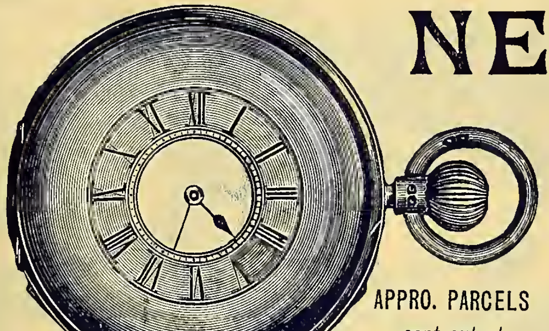
ON a Saturday afternoon in October last, in accordance with a laudable institution, in virtue of which all assistants take it in turns to have the half-day Saturday, the cashier of the well-known house of J. W. Benson, Ludgate-hill, was relieved by J. H. Tombs, a youth employed in another branch of the colossal establishment. At night the balance was taken, and cash chequed by another clerk, who then retired to his office, and the cash-box was handed to the manager to lock up in the safe till Monday morning. When the cash-box was then opened, it was found that Tombs had managed to take out over £50 and a valuable diamond marquise ring, and replace them with some pieces of metal of about the same weight so that the lightness of the box should not attract the attention of the manager. Nothing could be found of the youth either at his house or elsewhere, his widowed mother asserting that she had no idea of his whereabouts, which was probably true, as it appears he went straight to Paris, thence to Alexandria and Cairo, and having run through his money, was soon at his dishonest tricks again. Fortunately he was apprehended and imprisoned, and has been brought back and charged with his Ludgate-hill crime.

A New Danger.

MARK SUTER, described as a traveller, forty years of age, recently entered a jeweler's shop, No. 294, Walworth-road, and asked the lady assistant to give him a shilling for a charm, which he said was silver. Upon the assistant finding it not to be silver she told him it was not, whereupon, Suter called her a liar and took up the bottle of acid and threw it at her. Fortunately it did not strike her face, otherwise blindness might have followed, but it burnt her clothes. He was given into custody, and now awaits his trial.

Clock and Watchmaker's Asylum.—On the 16th instant there will be an election of a male inmate to the Clock and Watchmaker' Asylum at the Horological Institute ; there are also two vacancies for widows. Information in connection with which can be obtained of C. H. Overall (Clockmakers' Company), Guildhall, E.C.

The Chamelion Craze.—Our respected American contemporary, the *Manufacturing Jeweler*, gives the following, which will be read with some interest on this side. "No better evidence of the desire for display of novelty in jewelry and ornament exists than is shown by the present craze among girls and young women for wearing the little green lizards tethered by a gilt chain and stick pin on the breast of the wearer. The idea originated at the World's Fair Columbian Exposition, where it is said thousands were disposed of. Subsequently, dry goods and other stores had them on sale, and the fad has rapidly extended over the entire country. In New York City the Anti-Cruelty to Animal Society has succeeded in stopping the sale on the grounds of cruelty practiced by dealers in leaving them chained, unfed, and unprotected from the freezing northern temperature. The Brazilian beetle, similarly chained, was worn as an ornament for some time a few years ago, and it was finally prohibited. Observing that the infatuation continues in spite of interdiction, an enterprising firm of jewelry manufacturers have successfully produced a facsimile of the little reptile, even to colors, so that the whim of pleasure seekers and fashion leaders can be gratified to the fullest extent. Like its original, it is perfectly harmless, and is warranted to outlive its counterpart many generations." The last sentence is hardly American, and certainly not English,



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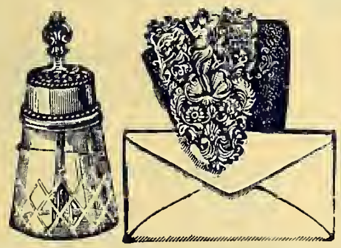

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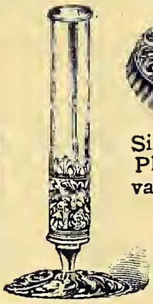

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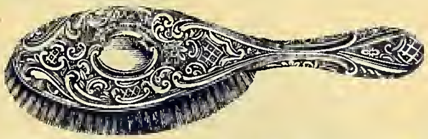

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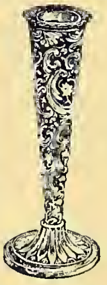

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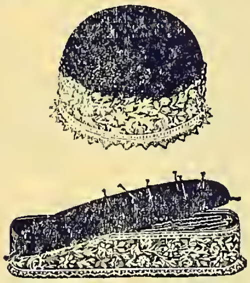

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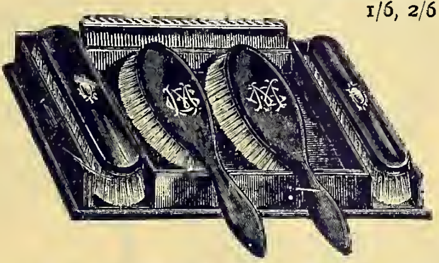

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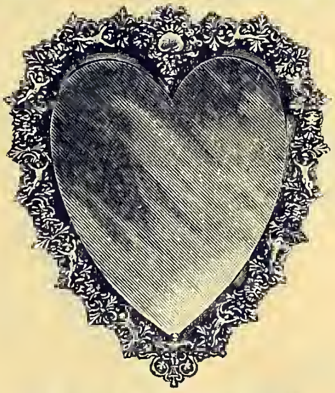

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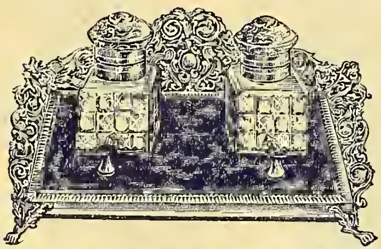

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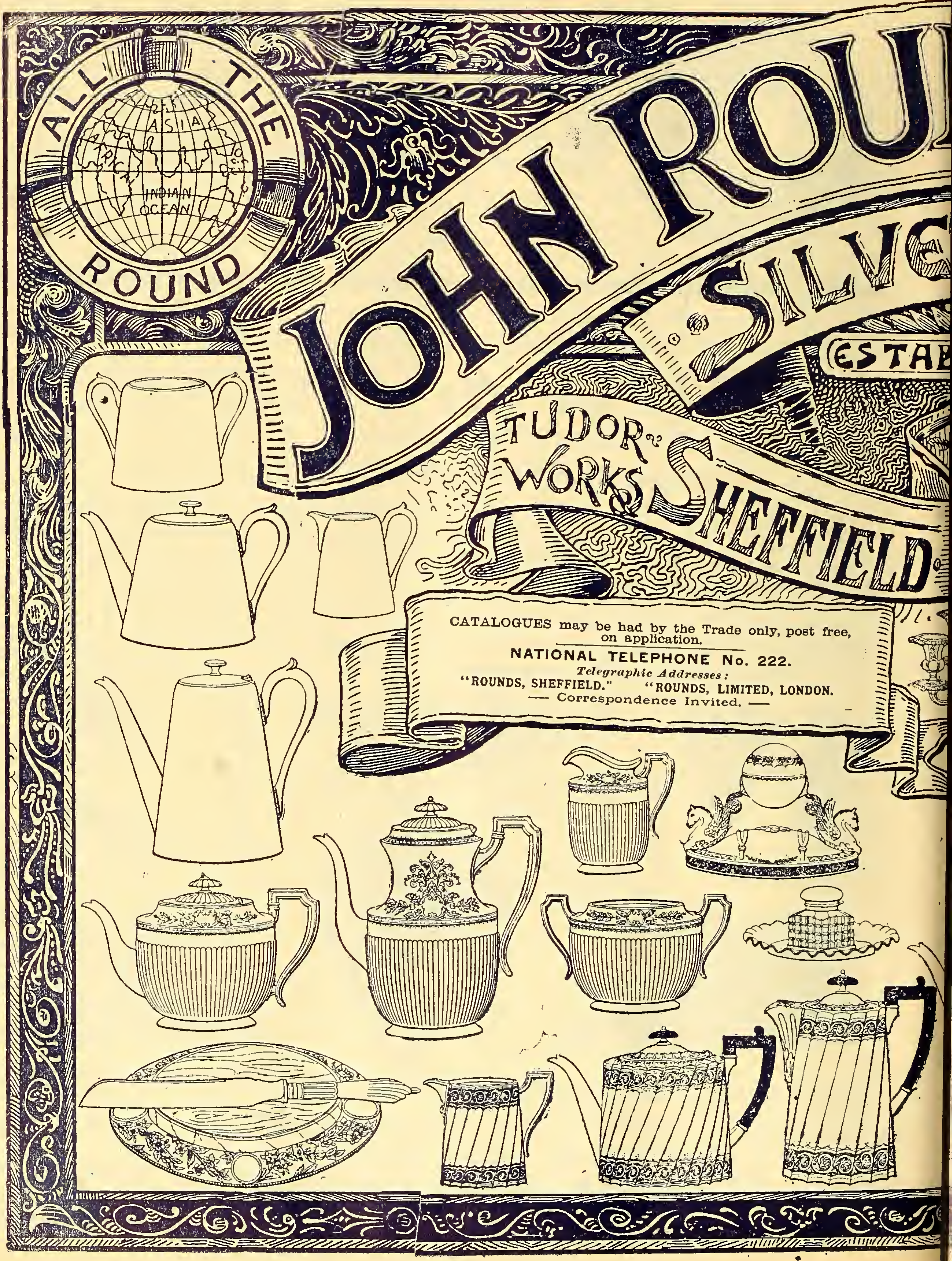
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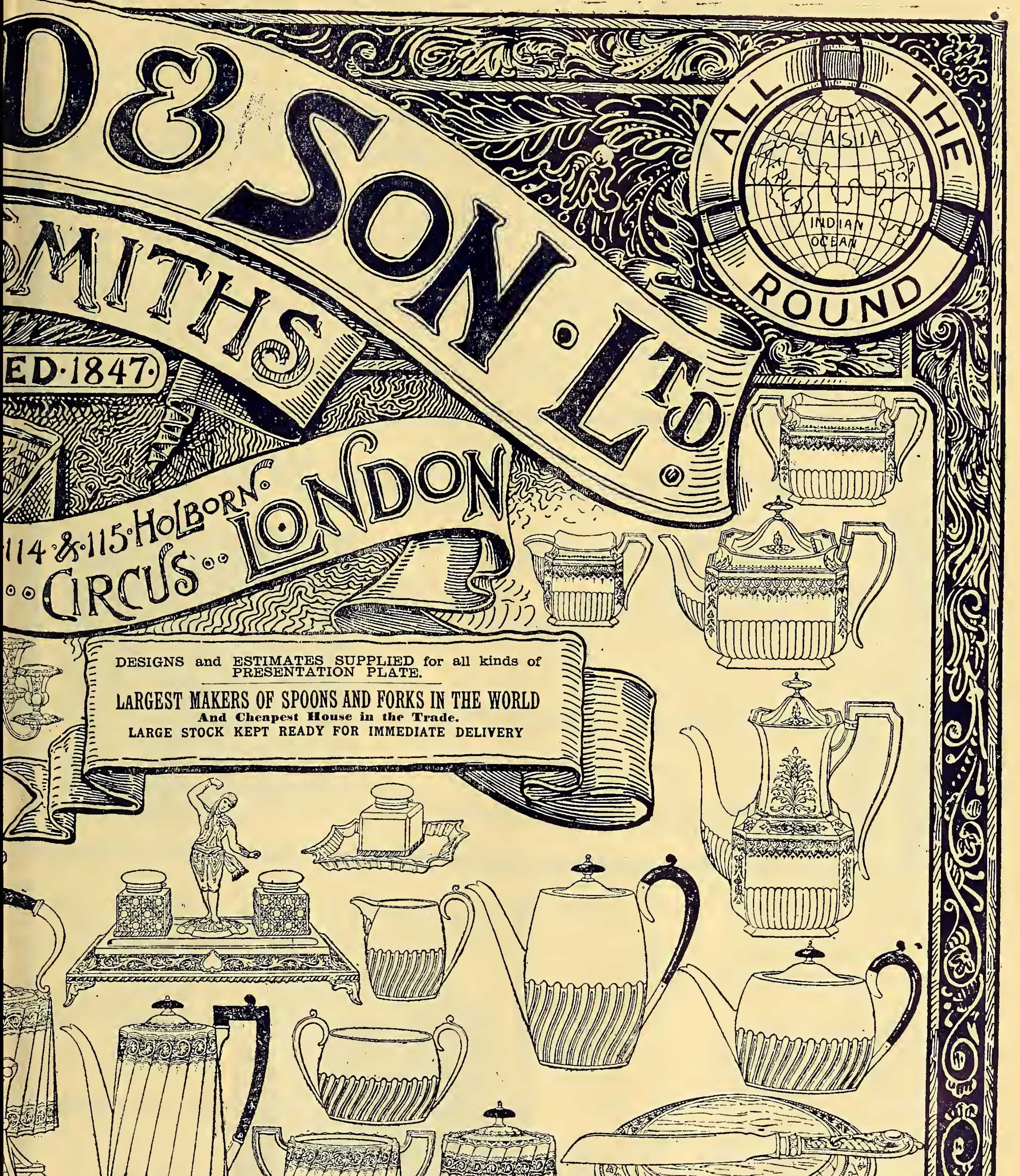
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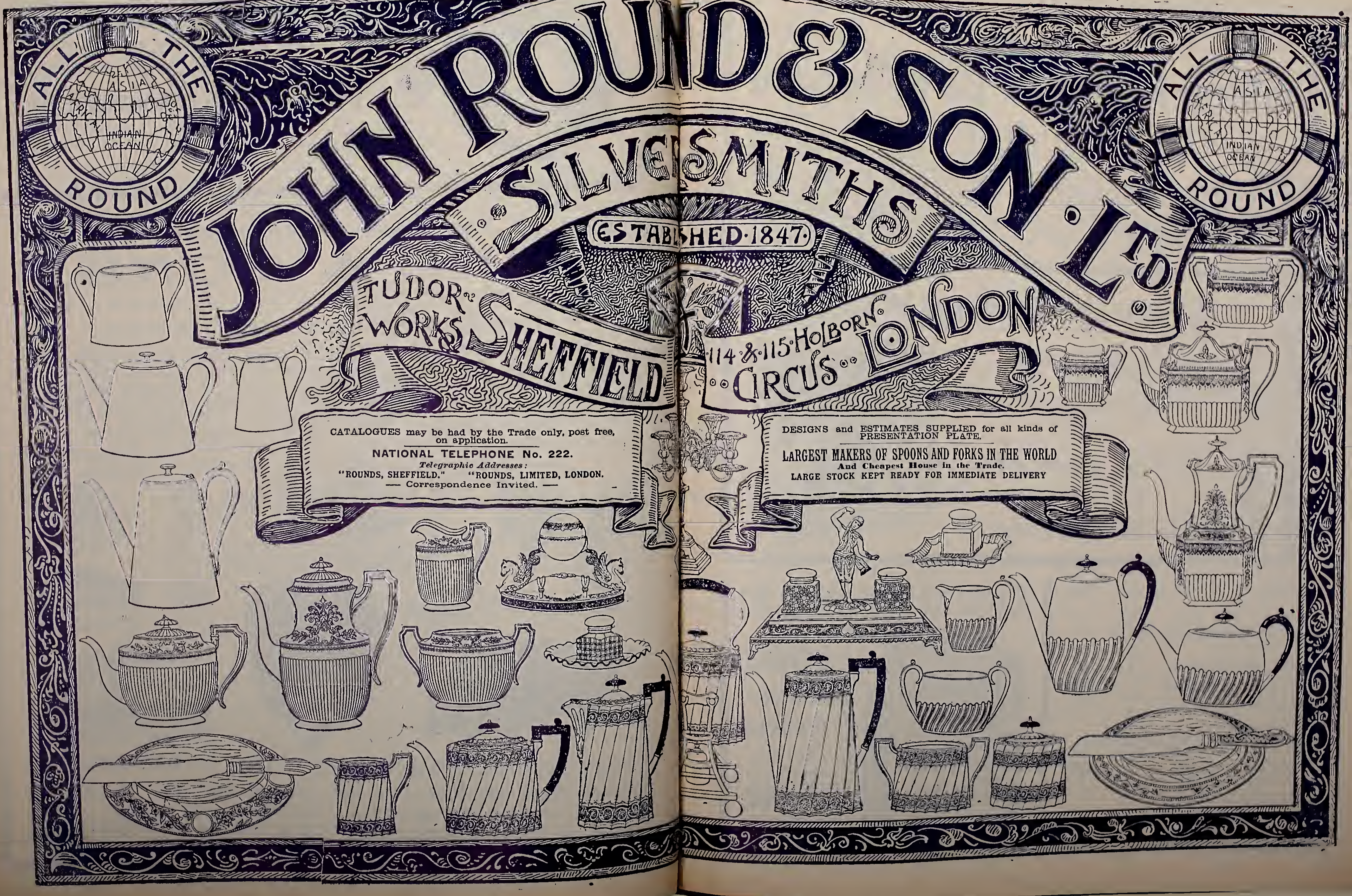
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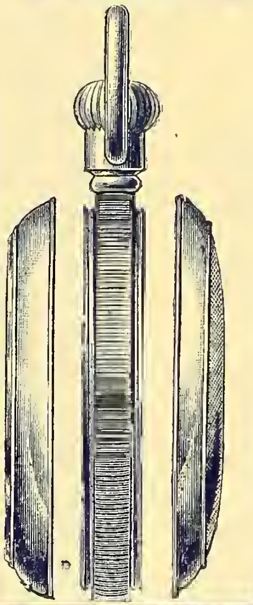

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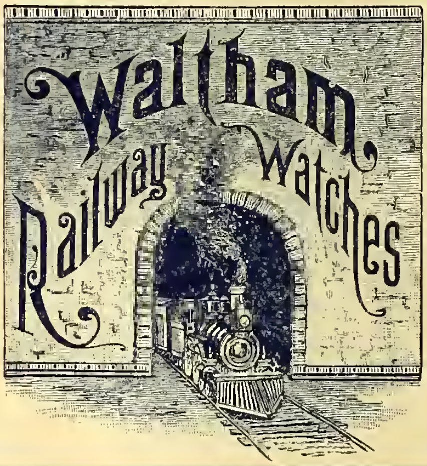

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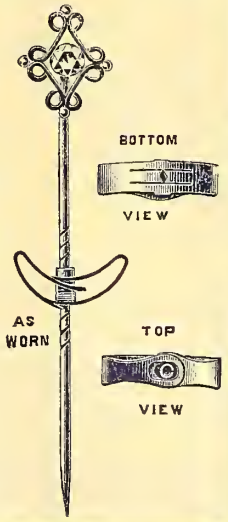

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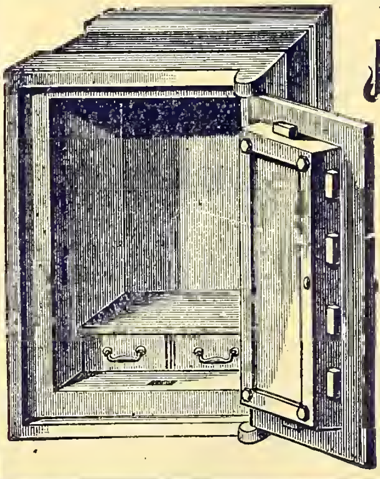

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OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

BEARD, Francis Edward, and Fletcher, Thomas (Beard and Fletcher, trading as), *Jewelers*, 60, Northampton-street, late 23, Pitsford-street, Birmingham. An order of adjudication was made on February 21st. The first meeting was held on March 12th at 28, Colmore-row, Birmingham. It appearedthat since 1890 the debtors had traded in Pitsford-street, Northampton-street, Great Tindal-street, Linwood-road, and Broad-street. The liabilities are stated at £408, and assets are estimated at £10. Most of the debts are due to money societies. They became aware of their insolvency two years ago, and attributed it to bad trade. No resolutions were passed, and the Official Receiver will act as trustee. The public examination was held on the same day at the County-court, Birmingham.

MUNN, Walter, *Jeweler*, 14, Liverpool-street, London. The receiving order and order of adjudication were made on March 6th. The first meeting was held on March 19th at Bankruptcy Buildings, Carey-street, W.C., when it was resolved that Mr. L. Hasluck, Chartered Accountant, of 17, Holborn-viaduct, should be appointed trustee, with Messrs. Sanft, Shepperd, and Brook as committee of inspection. The public examination is fixed for the 6th inst. at 12.30, at the same place. The gross liabilities are set down at £1,320. Those expected to rank are set at £1,276, and the assets are set down at £563. The failure is attributed to loss on trading consequent upon want of capital. The following are in the list of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Brook, G. H., and Co.	London	121	1	2
Dangerfield Printing Co.	,,	61	16	0
Jacquemin Bros.	,,	131	0	3
Letts Bros.	,,	35	9	11
Miller Bros.	,,	152	0	0
Marlborough and Pewtress	,,	26	16	6
Michael Bros.	,,	33	9	6
Mojon and Manger	,,	67	5	6
Perrier, M. A.	,,	76	0	0
Randall, —	Northampton	37	10	0
Saunders and Shepherd	London	216	6	0
Stauffer, Son, and Co.	,,	25	18	0
Watkins, A. A.	,,	24	13	0
Partly Secured Creditors.				
Nesbitt	London	200	0	0
Perrier, M. A.	,,	76	0	0

SHEPPARD, William John Jesse, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 35, Lower Marsh, Lambeth, late 320, Essex-road, Islington. The receiving order and order of adjudication were made on March 5th. The first meeting has been held, and the examination is fixed for the 17th inst. at 11 a.m., at Bankruptcy Buildings, Carey-street, London, W.C.

BERRY, Christopher, *Travelling Jeweler*, 46, Penmartin-road, Brockley, Kent. The receiving order was made on March 6th, and an order of adjudication on March 13th. The first meeting has been held and the public examination will take place on the 3rd inst. at 1 p.m., at Court House, Greenwich. The gross liabilities are set down at £510, of which £491 are expected to rank, and assets net £4.

STONE, Ephraim, *Dealer in Jewelry*, 71, Queen's-place, Claypit-lane, Leeds. The receiving order was made on March 5th, and the debtor adjudicated bankrupt on the same day. The first meeting and examination has been held. The accounts filed show unsecured liabilities of £268, and assets £21. The debtor attributes his failure to a robbery in September last, when all his stock and cash were taken away. He was adjudicated a bankrupt.

BIRNSTEIN, Emil Richard (R. Birnstein, trading as), *Jeweler*, 447 and 609, Commercial-road East, London. The receiving order was made on March 14th.

MASTERS, Thomas, *Watchmaker, Jeweler, etc.*, High-street, Tenterden, Kent. The receiving order was made on March 12th and order of adjudication on March 17th.

HARRIS, David, *Jeweler, etc.*, 33, Church-street, Abertillery, Mon. The receiving order and order of adjudication were made on March 12th. The first meeting will be held on the 4th inst., at 12 noon, at 65, High-street, Merthyr Tydvil, and the examination on 20th inst., at 10.30 a.m., at the County-court, Town Hall, Tredegar.

MILLS, Edwin Joseph, and Trow, William Frank (Mills and Trow, trading as), *Silversmiths*, 53, Northampton-street, Birmingham. The public examination of the debtors took place on 12th ult., at the County-court, Birmingham, before Mr. Registrar Parry. In reply to questions, the first-named debtor said that during the last fifteen months he and his partner had lost £2,001, but he did not know how the loss had occurred. He was in partnership with his two brothers, who carried on business in Australia. In answering further questions witness admitted that he had urged his partner to sell goods under cost price in order to get ready money. Ultimately the Registrar ordered an adjournment until March 29th.

COULSON, Jabez, *Jeweler*, 25, Baneswell-road, Newport, Mon. In this case the following are amongst the list of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Round, Samuel	Birmingham	42	9	11
Unna, J. A.	,,	45	0	0

CROUCH, Pearce Henry (Henry Crouch, trading as), *Optician*, 66, Barbican, London. The receiving order was made on March 20th.

LONDON, Francis (Frank London, trading as), *Manufacturing Jeweler and Diamond Mounter*, 1, Albion-road, Deptford, and 231, Oxford-street, London. The receiving order was made on March 21st.

GREAVES, Alfred, *Manufacturing Jeweler*, Tenby-street North, Birmingham. The receiving order was made on March 19th.

RILEY, Francis Bolton (F. B. Riley and Co., trading as), *Wholesale Jeweler, etc.*, 92, Paradise-street, Liverpool. The receiving order was made on March 21st.

CUMMINGS, George Bulmer (G. B. Cummings and Co., trading as), *Jeweler and Watchmaker*, 47 (late 90), Linthorpe-road, Middlesborough. The receiving order and order of adjudication were made on March 17th.

FURTWANGLER, Francis Adolph, *Jeweler*, Neath. This bankrupt came up for his public examination at the Neath Bankruptcy-court on the 6th inst. The statement of affairs filed by the debtor showed gross liabilities amounting to £736, of which £717 was due to unsecured creditors. The assets were estimated to realise £213. The examination was finally ordered to be adjourned, in order that the debtor might be enabled to file further accounts.

MILLS, W. H., *Jeweler*, lately carrying on business at 2, Old Market-street, Neath. The above bankrupt's examination was fixed for the 6th inst., at the Neath Bankruptcy-court, before the Registrar. The summary of accounts filed by the debtor disclosed gross liabilities amounting to £229, and the assets were returned at £88, leaving a deficiency of £141. The examination was adjourned.

DISSOLUTIONS OF PARTNERSHIP.

GLOVER and COOPER, *Electro-platers and Gilders*, Warstone-buildings, Warstone-lane, Birmingham. March 1st. Debts by Robert Frederick Glover, who continues.

KIRKHAM, James, and Bros., *Working Goldsmiths and Jewelers*, 17, Wilmington-square, Clerkenwell. February 24th. As regards Charles Kirkham and Herbert Kirkham. Debts by J. Kirkham.

LECLUSE, Felix, (Felix Henri Leon Lecluse, Louis Leon William Lecluse, and Alphonse Auguste Edmond Lecluse), 7, Frith-street, Soho, *Watchmakers, Clockmakers and Jewelers.*

PHILLIPS and CURTIS, 20, Lowgate, Hull, *Pawnbrokers, Clothiers and Jewelers*, March 1st. Debts by Robert Curtis.

SMITH and CLARKE, 27, Guildhall-street, Lincoln, *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, February 19th.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

WEST, Charles, *Jeweler and General Salesman*, 99 and 101, Willow-street, Leicester. Dividend of 10s. 10½d. at Gordon-chambers, 1a, Market-place, Leicester, March 1st.

APPLICATIONS FOR DISCHARGE.

TUMPOROSKY, Judah Isaac, *Jeweler*, formerly of Broadway, Cardiff. Application has been made for the discharge of this bankrupt, whose liabilities were £1,383 The estate realised 1s. 2½d. in the £1. Discharge was suspended for five years.

DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT.

BARRELL, EDMUND, *Jeweler and Watchmaker*, 26, THE DUKERY, NORTHAMPTON, has assigned to W. G. E. Corfield, with a view of paying a composition of 10s. in the £ by four equal instalments, three, six, nine and twelve months; the last two instalments being secured by surety. The unsecured liabilities are £1,198. Of the estimated value of £694. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Bendon, George, and Co.	London	27	0	0
Borgzinner Bros.	,,	20	0	0
Stauffer, Scn, and Co.	,,	33	0	0
Bank, J. M.	Birmingham	21	0	0
Blanckensee, S., and Co.	,,	49	0	0
Fitter, H., and Sons	,,	102	0	0
Griffith, W., and Sons	,,	441	0	0
Lewis Bros.	,,	35	0	0
Stainton, J.	,,	47	0	0
Wolffe Bros.	,,	99	0	0
Dunckley, J.	Northampton	42	0	0
Willis, Mark, and Son	Sheffield	101	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS		100	0	0

FAIRBAIRNS, ELIZABETH J., *Electro-plate Manufacturer*, 69, ST. MARY AXE, E.C., MAY-STREET, SHEFFIELD, and ST. JULIAN'S FARM-ROAD, WEST NORWOOD, has executed a deed of assignment for the benefit of her creditors, with Edward Phillips as trustee. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £2,119, estimated to realise £1,126. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Holland and Slater	London	28	0	0
Lawton and Carder	,,	21	0	0
Holland, F.	,,	429	0	0
Cohen, David, and Co.	,,	25	0	0
Swepstone and Stone	,,	30	0	0
Old Hall Earthenware Co., The... ...	Hanley	300	0	0
Holland, Joseph	Hastings	43	0	0
Green, Rev. J.	St. Leonard's-on-Sea	455	0	0
Boardman and Glossop	Sheffield	138	0	0
Mosley, R. F., and Co.	,,	150	0	0
Millward, A., and Co.	,,	29	0	0
Burton, A.	,,	80	0	0
Alcaster, A. J.	,,	25	0	0
Thurgood, —	Streatham	32	0	0
BANKERS' CLAIMS		204	0	0

HAZLEWOOD, JOHN, *Silversmith*, 23, VYSE-STREET BIRMINGHAM, has executed a deed of arrangement, William Spencer, Lapidist, Spencer-street, Birmingham, being trustee. The unsecured liabilities are £826, estimated to produce £217. The following are amongst the creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Farnol, J. M.	Birmingham	47	0	0
Padmore, John	,,	52	0	0
Spencer, Joseph	,,	390	0	0
Stringer, Mrs.	,,	200	0	0
Spencer, Joseph	,,	22	0	0

LUCKHURST, EDWARD, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 127, HIGH-STREET, PUTNEY, has executed a deed of arrangement whereby he agrees to pay to G. G. Poppleton, as trustee, £20 per week from March 13th, 1894, until sufficient has been paid to meet claims and costs of creditors. The trustee to divide rateably every four months. The unsecured liabilities are set down at £2,673, and assets are estimated at £2,797. The secured creditors equal £655. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Brook, G. H., and Co.	London	474	11	9
Perrier, M. A.	,,	116	0	0
Samuel and Sons	,,	22	17	4
Scott, J., and Sons	,,	111	15	6
Ayers and Sons	,,	49	9	0
Gay, Lemaille, and Co.	,,	75	15	11
Seigele and Bennett	,,	53	9	3
Isaacs, A. and J.	,,	63	11	7
Mojon, Manger, and Co.	,,	83	16	3
St. Olave's Grammar School	,,	20	0	0
Walton and Co.	Birmingham	165	16	3
Goldsmid Bros.	,,	316	12	11
Griffiths, H., and Son	,,	347	5	2
Nathan Bros.	,,	181	13	2
Nathan and Hayes...	,,	41	13	1
Hines, Miss Anna	,,	256	11	11
Baker and Sons	,,	25	18	3
Mayell Bros.	,,	37	5	1
Prime, T., and Sons	Birmingham	55	10	0
Harris, S. S.	Southend	75	0	0

STRONG, EBENEZER GEO., *Jeweler and Watchmaker*, 18, CASTLE-ROAD, CARDIFF, has executed a deed of arrangement, with a view of paying his creditors in full by six equal instalments, at three, seven, ten, fourteen, seventeen, and twenty months, from February 26th, 1894, with G. G. Poppleton, C.A., as trustee. The unsecured liabilities are £1,081, and the assets estimated at £601. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Marples, R. M.	London	20	0	0
Thompson and Sons	,,	21	0	0
Withhald, Tweer, and Co.	,,	47	0	0
Cohen, J., and Sons	Birmingham	124	0	0
Chatterley, J. B.	,,	25	0	0
Holmes, W. J.	,,	33	0	0
Round, Samuel	,,	40	0	0
Wright, W., and Co.	,,	23	0	0
Williamson, C.	,,	20	0	0
Strong, M.	Devizes	400	0	0
Commissioners of Lunacy (Bate, D.)		192	0	0

MASTERS, AMOS, *Jeweler*, out of business, ALMA HOUSE, WOOD-STREET, COVENTRY, has executed a deed of arrangement for the benefit of his creditors, with Joseph Ashley, Bishop-street, Coventry, as trustee. The unsecured liabilities are £450, and the estimated assets £86. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Jones, Henry	Birmingham	25	0	0
Briggs, John Watson	Lee	150	0	0
Masters, William	Warwick	200	0	0
Grigg, Annie	,,	75	0	0

MORLE, JOHN HALLETT, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 166, SIDWELL-STREET, EXETER, has executed a deed of arrangement for the benefit of his creditors, with John G. Goss, Castle-street, Exeter, as trustee. The unsecured liabilities are £378, and the assets estimated at £106. Amongst the creditors are the following :—

		£	s.	d.
Patter and Son	London	16	8	8
Robinson and Chapman	,,	14	0	0
Simpson, S. ... ... - ...	,,	165	1	3
Griffiths and Sons	Birmingham	113		0
Thomas, H. W.	Bristol	15	0	0

RANDALL, ALFRED, *Electro-plate Manufacturer*, 58, HOWARD-STREET, BIRMINGHAM, has executed a deed of arrangement, with C. B. Flint, C.A., Birmingham, as trustee. The liabilities are set down at £73, and assets at £32.

MACHKY, JOHN, *Jeweler and Broker*, KEY-STREET, CRIEFF, This bankrupt has been, examined, and the statement of affairs shows liabilities £472 and assets £76., £200 of the liabilities being for law costs in an action for slander brought by debtor against a hotel keeper.

GREEN, CHARLES, *Jeweler*, HIGH-STREET, ANDOVER HANTS. In this case, according to statement furnished to the Official Receiver, debtor attributes his deficiency to want of capital, pressure by creditors, profits being too small to meet household expenses. Debtor has known of his insolvency since 1887. The liabilities amount to £402, and assets are estimated at £85. The winding up of the estate was left in the hands of the Official Receiver.

Marriage of Mr. H. H. Hood.—The employés and friends of Mr. Joseph Hood, Livery-street, Birmingham, assembled at the New Gallery, Barkwick-street, on March 20th, in celebration of the marriage of Mr. Horace H. Hood, which had taken place at the Lozells Congregational Church, Wheeler-street, on the previous Tuesday. A supper, concert, and dance were given, and the opportunity was taken advantage of by the employés at the close of the repast to present the newly married couple with an illuminated address, expressive of their esteem and good wishes, and a very pretty silver afternoon tea service. Mr. Joseph Hood presided, and there were also present, in addition to the bride and bridegroom, Miss Hood, Miss Dot Hood, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Holmes, Miss Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. F. Webb, Mr. Millward (of the *Ironmonger*) and Mrs. Millward, Miss Ansell, Miss Owen and Mr. Bernard Owen.

A Large Clock has just been erected at the Parish Church, High Ham, Somersetshire, by Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It has all the latest improvements and is guaranteed to keep very correct time. The dial is a square one of special design. The same firm have also just completed a similar clock at Corsely Parish Church, Wilts.

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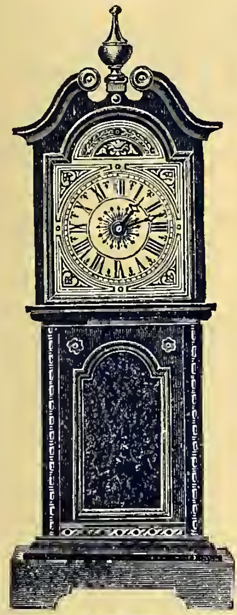
Stephenson Street,
BIRMINGHAM,

WATCH AND CLOCK MAKERS AND IMPORTERS.

Opposite the North Western and Midland Stations.



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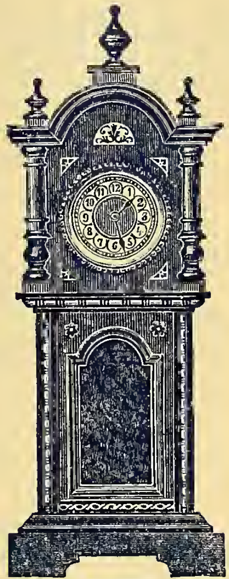
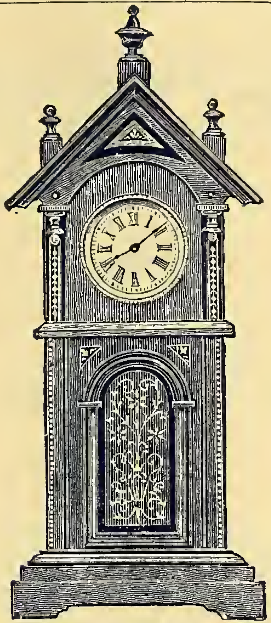


55/39

Grandfathers' Lever Movements, Polished Walnut, Gilt Decorations, Height, 12¼ inch.



1264

LARGEST VARIETY IN THE TRADE

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We are now showing the most saleable run of patterns in 30 hour time and strike

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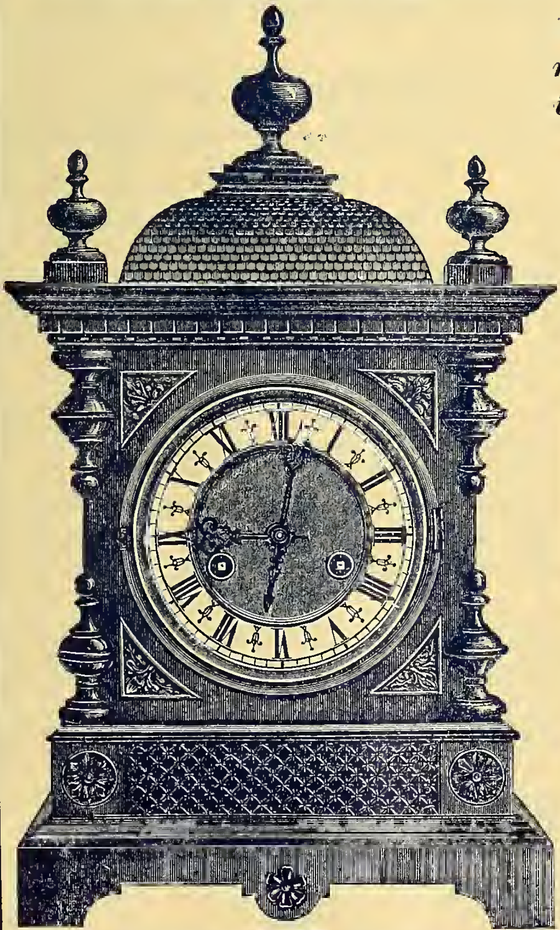
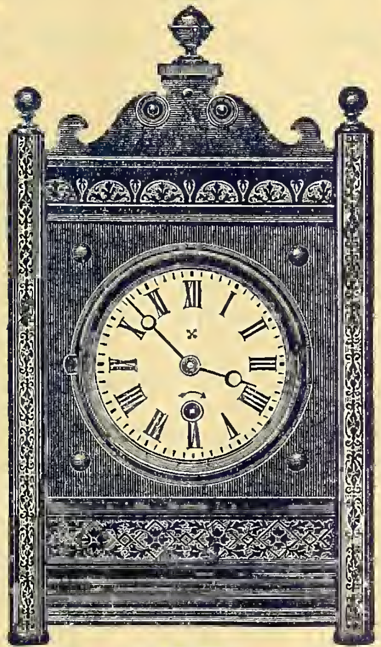


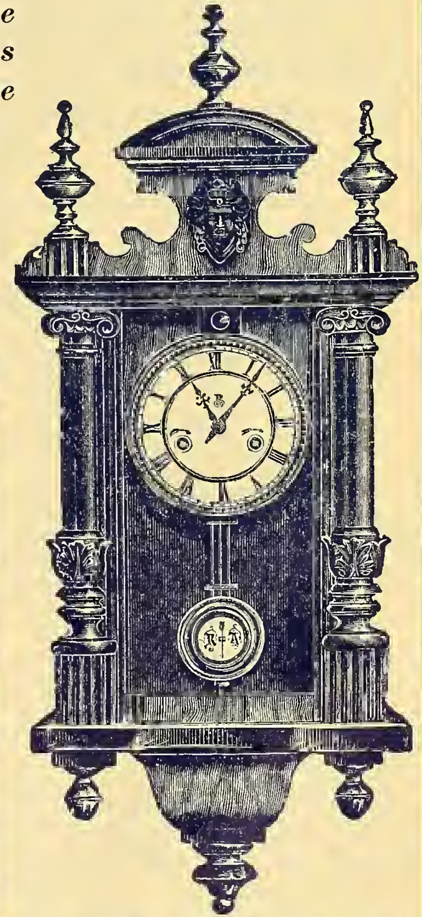
55/33

14 day Strike (pillar gong), Walnut, Gilt centre Dial, Height 18¼ inch.



55/36

Dead Walnut, Gold Decorations, Height 13 inch, 30 hours.



14 day, Spring Regulator, Length 28½, Strike, Ivory and Gilt Dial.

The above is a wonderfully cheap line.

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for the

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ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A Clock Tower for Bristol is being advocated by the local press, the position suggested is a central one.

The premises and part of the stock of Carl Wherley, jeweler, Windsor-road, Penarth, were damaged by fire on the morning of the 9th ult.

A Limited Company has been registered to acquire a jeweler's gold and silversmith's business, with the extraordinary capital of £500 in £1 shares, under the title of "Parmeter's, Limited."

The Foundations of an illuminated clock, costing over £200, to be erected in the centre of Thirsk market-place, in honor of the marriage of the Duke of York, were staked out on the 19th inst.

"The Pioneer Mail" says it is understood that there is no chance of a hall-mark for Indian silver goods being instituted, as the Government have not seen their way to adopting the suggestions made a considerable time back in this respect.

A Paris Thief, upon being recently searched, was discovered to have a receptacle for jewelry in the heels of his boots. A watch stolen from a watchmaker's was found thus secreted.

Aluminium Slate Pencils are now on the market. The aluminium is chemically prepared so as not to scratch the slate, and the marks can be easily erased. In aluminium pencils the holder is of wood, the conical point alone being made of the feather metal.

A Diamond, slightly more than a carat in weight, has been found at Kingston, South Australia, by a digger while prospecting for gold. The stone is a perfect crystal, with symmetrical facet, and is of a pale straw color.

The Gold Discoveries in Western Australia have had an appreciable effect upon the population returns of the Colony, and the total estimated population on December 31st was 65,067. The influx of immigrants continues, and in the first week of this year no fewer than 300 arrived at Perth.

A South Wales Paper informs its readers that a *new* stone has just been introduced by fashionable jeweler's called the "peridot." This is rather behind time! Some people think if they have not noticed a thing before it must be *new.*

When a "Star" occurs in a garnet it has always four rays, forming angles of 90deg. with each other, thereby forming a cross. It thus differs from a star ruby and a star-sapphire, which have six rays separated from each other by 60deg.

According to our excellent contemporary, the *Observatory*, Sir Henry Thompson, the eminent surgeon has offered, throught the Astronomer Royal, a sum of £5,000 for the purpose of buyinga telescope for Greenwich Observatory.

A Fine Black Pearl Necklace, we are informed, was recently sold by a London firm for £3,000. It is reported to have formerly belonged to Queen Isabella of Spain.

There is a Great Demand just now for cheap and gilt jewelry amongst the lower classes and domestic servants at the Cape, as well as or the more expensive articles for the fortune makers.

A Contemporary Remarks:—"I particularly noticed in Dundee that all the principal jewelers' shops are lit by electricity, and in most cases the window fittings were arranged with better regard for effect than is generally the case in London."

William Hogarth, whose pictures are so widely known, and stand unique, was apprenticed to a silver plate engraver; and pieces of work by this great master realise a high price when they chance to come into the market.

An Electric Time Distributing and Clock Company has been registered, with a capital of £5,000 in £1 shares, to acquire and turn to account certain patents relating to improvements in electric clocks.

A Company with a capital of £5,000 in £1 shares has been registered under the name of Anderson's Patent Day and Night Clock Company, to deal in clocks, watches, etc.

Jewelry and Plate in large quantities have recently been sold off by auction at Cardiff by a firm said to hail from London. As many of the articles were gem goods of high figure, and only such as are bought once in a life-time, it is rather hard on Cardiff jewelers, who have helped to bear the expenses of building up this rising port.

Pierced Metal and Gilt brushes of various descriptions, overlaying imitation ivory are now being exposed in the windows of hosiers and some jewelers who go in for cheap things.

The Finest Lathe in the Country is now to be seen at Messrs. Grimshaw and Baxter's tool warehouse. We hope to give a full description of this marvellous piece of mechanism next month.

Another New Mineral.—A new mineral Willyamite (the name is uncomfortably like Willemite) has been discovered in a 50lb. lump of automonial silver in a New South Wales mine. The new arrival contains antimony, cobalt, nickel, sulphur, copper, and lead, with a little iron to bind the bargain.

The "Marbeloid" Clocks referred to by our New York correspondent, we believe, are similar to those we recently saw at the warehouse of Wessrs. Grimshaw and Baxter. They are very effective, and extremely good looking.

Coventry Watch Trade.—Reports are to hand from Coventry which state that while many firms are fairly well off for orders, and some are quite busy, the general trade is very quiet, and that the depression of the new year has not yet disappeared.

Sheffield Cutlery.—Recently a lady, having proved the inferiority of foreign scissors, at last hit upon a plan by which she would be sure to be able to get a pair of genuine Sheffield steel. Accordingly, she sent to a friend in the steel city, asking her to get her such an article. The scissors were duly bought in Sheffield, and forwarded to London; when, however, they arrived, they were still wrapt up in the German paper!

Electric Clock Alarm.—W. Fulder, Herne Hill, has patented an electric alarm clock, where any American or French alarm clock can be employed, which at the appointed minute sets an ordinary electric bell ringing, and continues thus employed until stopped, and as this sometimes necessitates getting out of bed it is an efficacious waker of a drowsy person. Of course the clock can be in one room and the bell anywhere else.

Cycle Catalogue.—Now that so many in the trade find that cycles are a natural and lucrative side line for the horologer, and cycles are almost as common as top hats—in fact, more so in country places—it is worth the attention of those who have not yet branched out in them to consider the advisability of doing so. To such, and those who have already done so, we should like to call attention to the new catalogue of the "Reform" Company. These machines are well-known favorites, and claim the attention of all in any way interested in these ever increasing popular vehicles.

Alchemy.—Prof. W. C. Williams, B.Sc., recently gave an interesting lecture before the Sheffield Literary and Philosophical Society, in which he recalled the conclusions of M. Bedtheldt, who, as readers are probably aware, spent many years in this line of research, viz., that alchemy had its origin in the successful attempts of the Egyptian goldsmiths in manufacturing alloys so much resembling gold and silver that they not only deceived customers but themselves. In course of time they became experts in making imitation gold, and believed that copper and lead were transmuted into gold and silver.

Horological Literature.—The Swiss trade Press has referred in somewhat strong language to the fact that the literature of watchmaking in the immense Chicago Exposition was represented by but one exhibitor, viz., Julien Tripplin, of London, who showed his invaluable translation of Saunier. When we remember the nature of our horological literature in this country, of the kind of works of which it is comprised, and how much all modern compilations owe to the before-named magnificent encyclopædia; one realises it is a case of Plato and Socrates over again; indeed, many maintain that Tripplin is to horological literature what Shakespeare is to the English drama.

Sharper than Honorable.—A correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, who lives at Hampstead, calls attention to the fact that a clockmaker in that locality has offered a gold watch as a prize for guessing when a particular clock in his shop will stop. The guessers had to make small purchases in order to enter the competition, and now they find that, as the ingenious tradesman winds the clock up whenever it is getting to the end of its tether, they may have to wait about a quarter of a century before the question is decided. The beauty of the arrangement is that the clockmaker seems to be quite within the terms of his bargain, and the competitors have no remedy.

Messrs. S. Smith and Son's Annual Smoking Concert.—On the 10th ult. this well-known and expanding firm entertained their employes for the sixth time at a smoking concert. This was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, where everything tempting was provided both for the epicure and the lover of music and mirth. Mr. Samuel Smith, the head of the firm, occupied the chair, and numerous first-class artists of various descriptions contributed to pass a delightful evening. In proposing the health of the chairman, Mr. Gregory alluded to the bond of good feeling which existed between employer and employes, not only on this occasion, but through their business hours. Bravo, Mr. Smith!

Electric Time-Keeping,—A new electric circuit clock driven from a master clock has lately been invented by Messrs. Allam and Holt, of Manchester, which they claim to be economical for use on railways, large works, hotels, etc. It is composed of three ordinary dial wheels and a disc fastened on a 6-tooth pinion driving the same dial wheels. The disc has ten pins at equal distances apart, ¼-inch long, parallel with pinion on outside edge of disc. A pair of small coils and armature with a hook fastened at the end of armature stem are connected up to an ordinary clock, making contact on a wheel which revolves once a minute, thereby drawing the armature, and the hook catching one of the pins in the disc causes the minute hand to move one minute, the hour hand moving proportionately. The hook on the armature is so arranged that when the current is off and the armature falls back, the hook swings into position for lifting the next pin in the disc.

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The cheapest, simplest, and most perfect Watch Jewel Gauge put before the Trade. It cannot fail if the instructions issued with it are followed out. It saves valuable time by showing at once the diameter and pivot size of jewel required, is compactly fitted up and will gauge all sizes from the smallest balance hole to the largest 3rd or 4th wheel sizes. The inventor having perfect faith in the usefulness of the gauge undertakes to at once refund the amount charged for it if not approved of.

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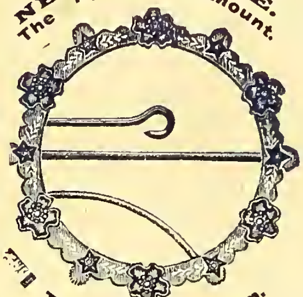

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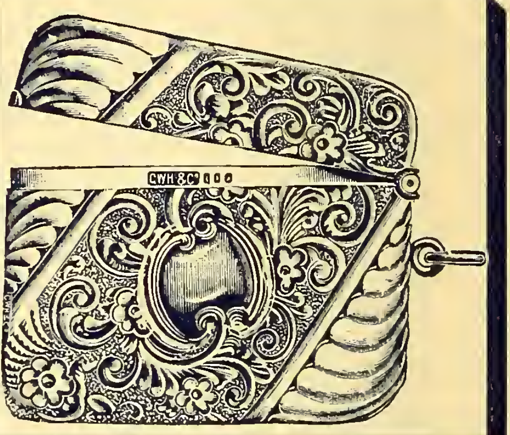

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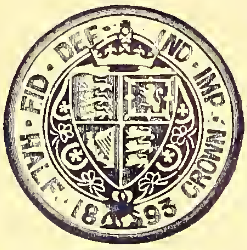

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No business will under any circumstances be placed upon our register until we have assured ourselves as far as possible of its *bona fide* character.

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This being the first time in the history of the trade that any Wholesale and Manufacturing House has publicly undertaken business of this character, we feel confident that the advantages accruing from the placing of important matters of this description into the hands of those *actively engaged in the Trade*, and whose *practical knowledge* must be of immense advantage, will be self-evident, and duly appreciated.

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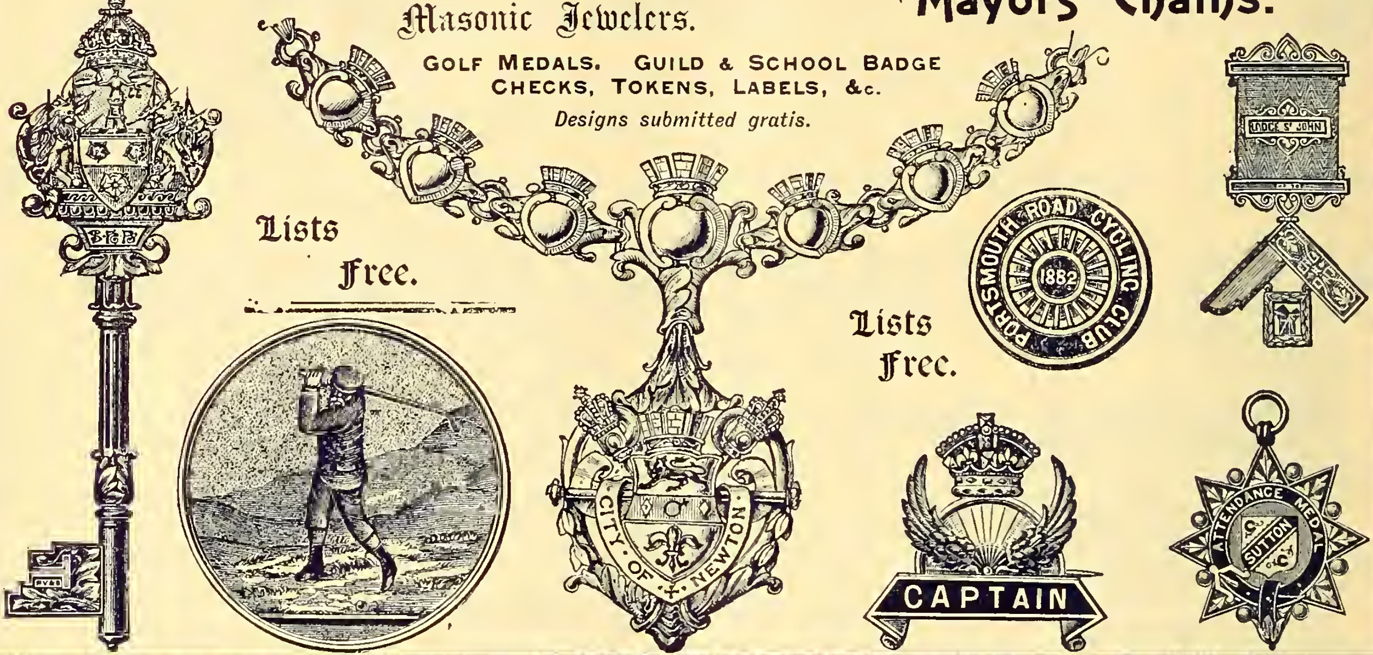

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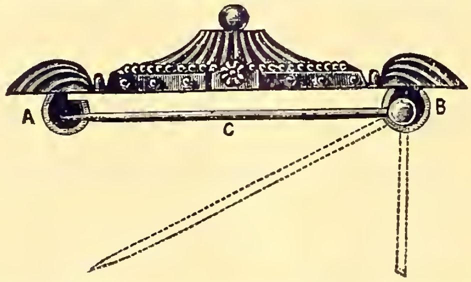

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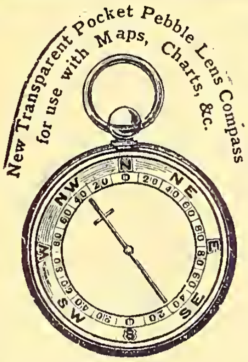
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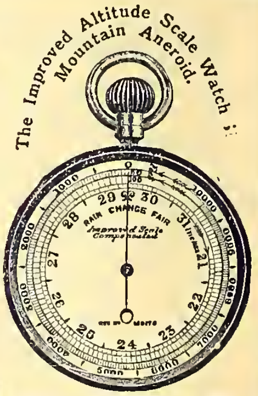
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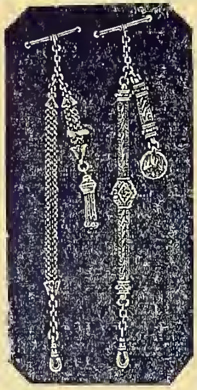

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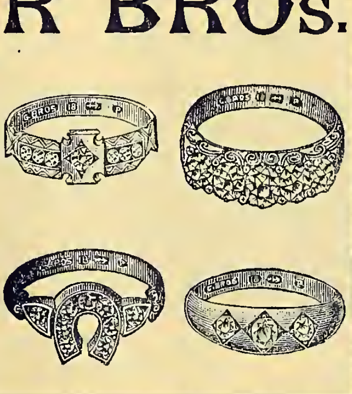

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Gay, E., Lamaille and Co., Charterhouse-street, E.C.

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Hepburn and Wilcox, 36, Tenby-st., Birmingham.

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Johnson, Walker and Tolhurst, 80, Aldersgate-street, E.C.

Westwood, C., 53, Gt. Hampton-st., Birmingham.

Plucknett, C. J., & Co., 29, Poland-street London, W.

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Box, F. B., 64, Holborn Viaduct, London.

Poppleton, G. G., C.A., 26, Corporation-street Birmingham.

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Leake, C., 9, Horton s Buildings, Branston-street Birmingham.

Reading, N. C., and Co., 186, Warstone-lane, Birmingham.

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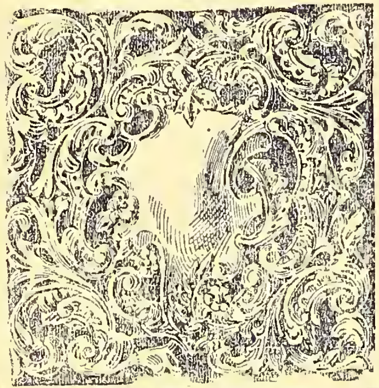

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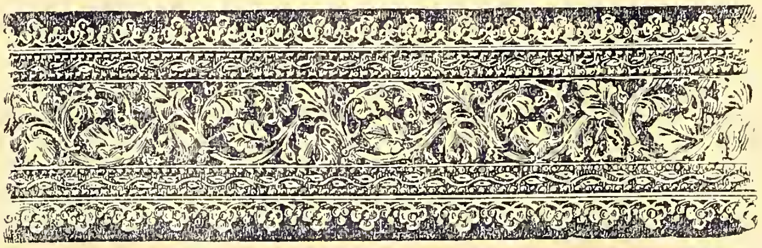

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BUYERS' GUIDE AND TRADE DIRECTORY.—*Continued.*

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Armstrong, T., and Bros., 4, St. Mary-street, Manchester.
Evans, W. F., and Sons, Soho Clock Foundry, Birmingham.
Fattorini and Sons, Bradford.
Gay, E., Lamaille and Co., Charterhouse-street, E.C.
Haycock, W., Church-street, Ashbourne.
Simmons and Fredericks, 19, Charterhouse-buildings, Goswell-road, E.C.
Smith, John, and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby.
Swinden and Sons, 27, 28 29, Temple-street, Birmingham.
Wattis, G. and F. E., Lower Temple-st., Birmingham.

CLOCK REPAIRS.

Armstrong, Adam L., 45, Stamshaw-road, Portsmouth.

COIN MOUNTS.

Light and Witcomb, 8, Augusta-street, Birmingham.

COMPASSES.

Barker, Francis, and Son, 12, Clerkenwell-road, London, E.C. (See advertisements. Pages as in index.)

CUTLERY.

Vale, William, and Sons, Unett Works, 83, Unett-street, Birmingham.

CYCLES.

Coventry Cycle Manufacturing Co., Grove Works, Coventry.
Newsome and Co., Butts, Coventry.
Reform Cycle Co., Coventry.

DRESSING BAGS AND CASES.

Chapman, Son and Co., 2, Charterhouse-buildings, Aldersgate, London.

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Armstrong, Adam L., 45, Stamshaw-road, Portsmouth.
Thwaites Bros., 25, St. John Street-road, London.

DIAMONDS.

Backes and Strauss, 15 and 16, Holborn Viaduct.
Gray, W. M., and Co., 7, Hatton-garden, E.C.
Johnson, Walker and Tolhurst, 80, Aldersgate-street, E.C.

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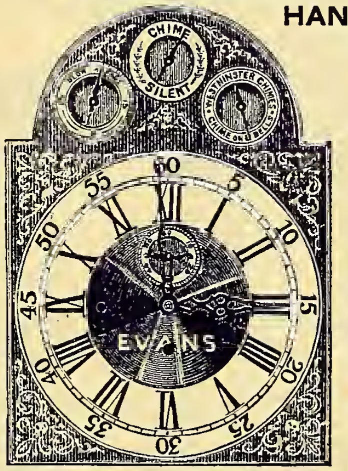

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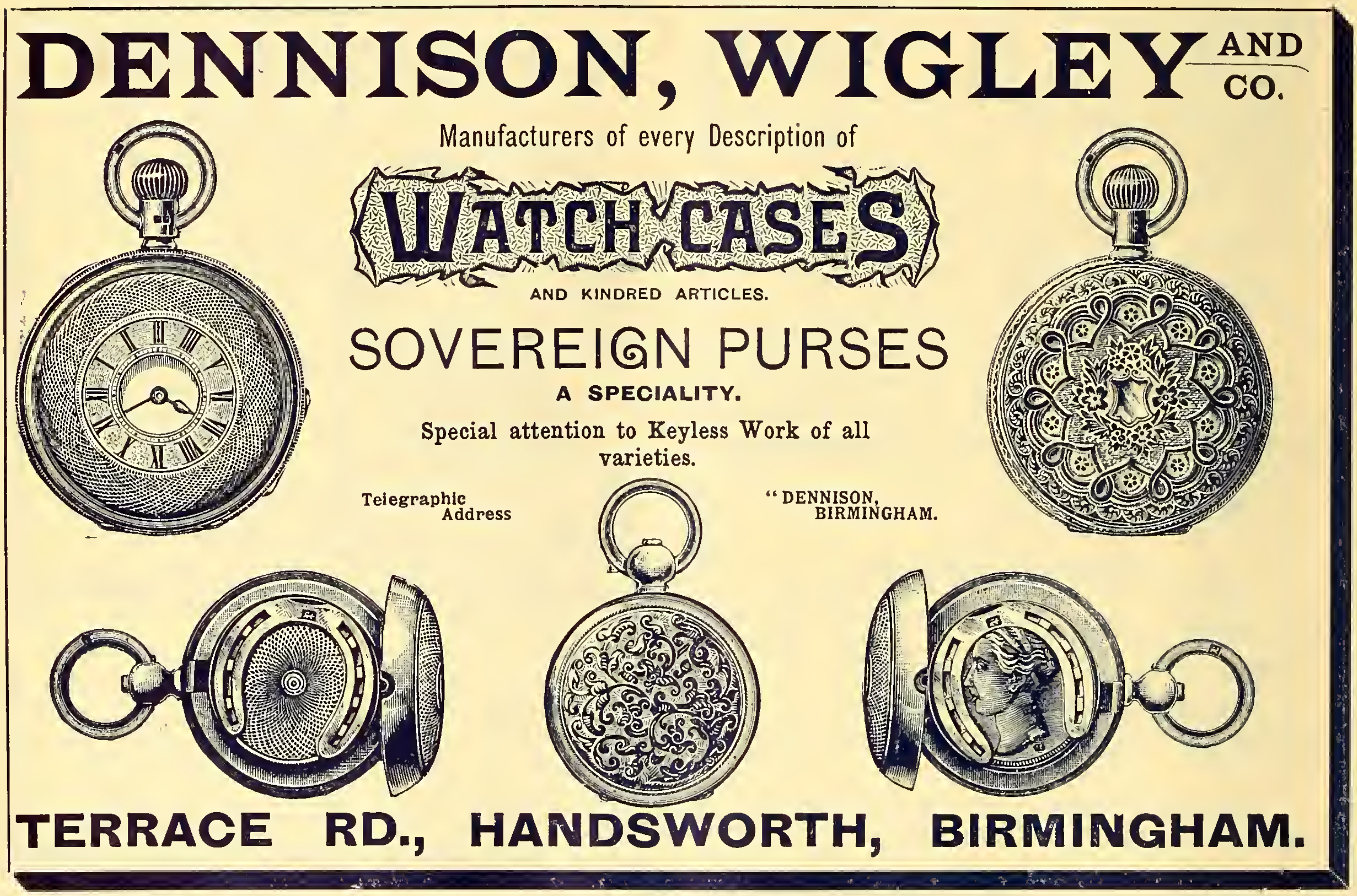

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Siegele and Bennett, 11, Charterhouse-street, London.
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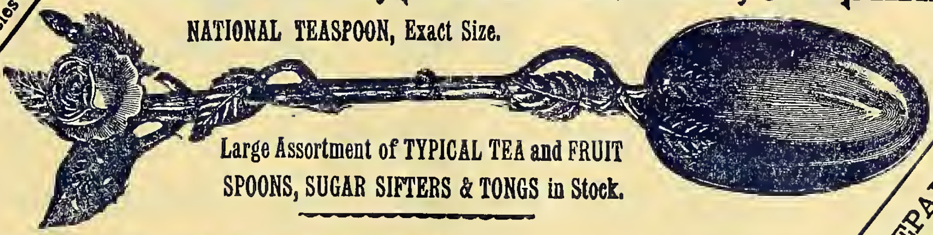

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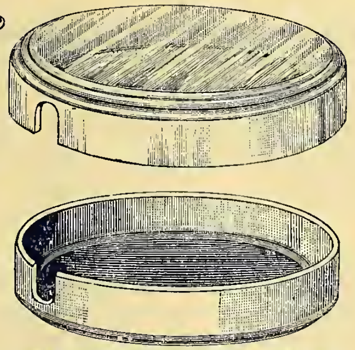

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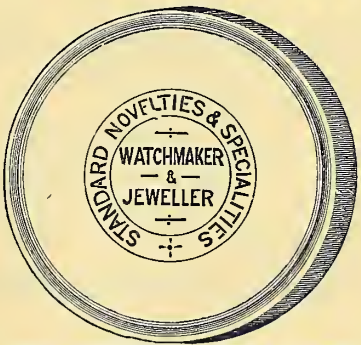

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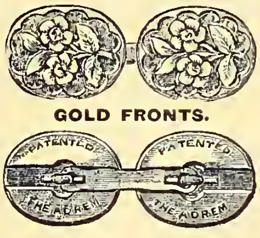

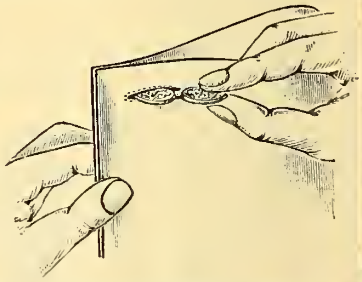

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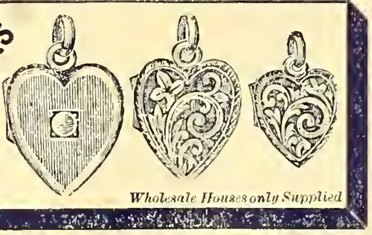

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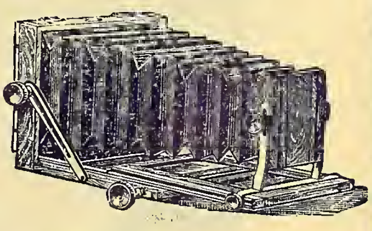

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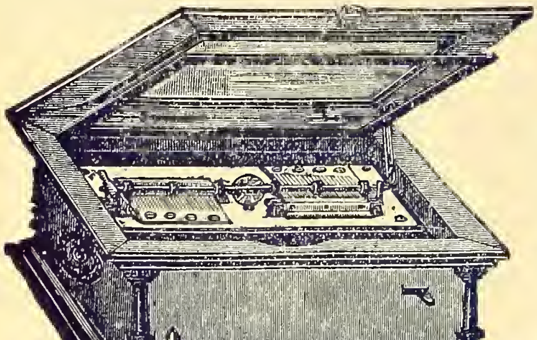

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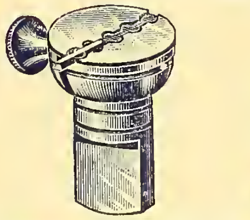

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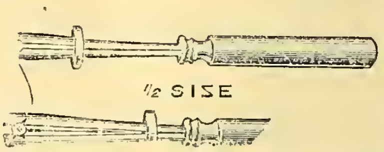

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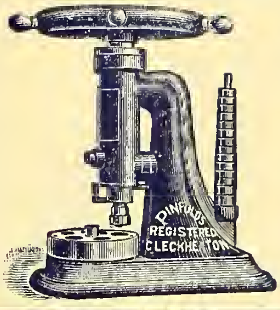

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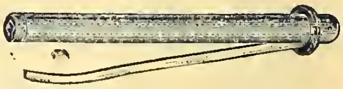

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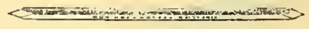

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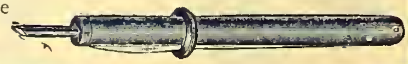

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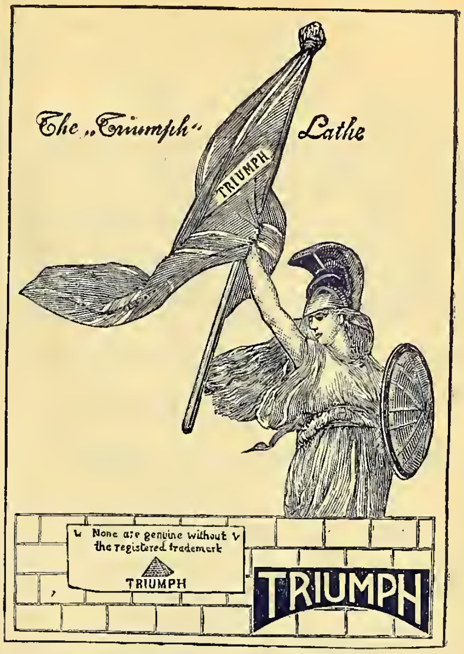
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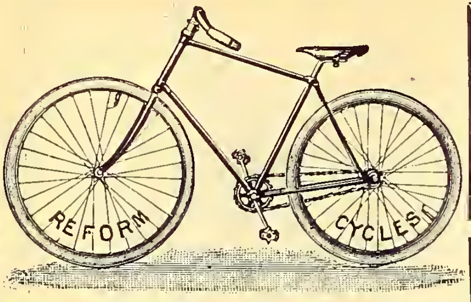

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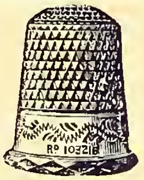

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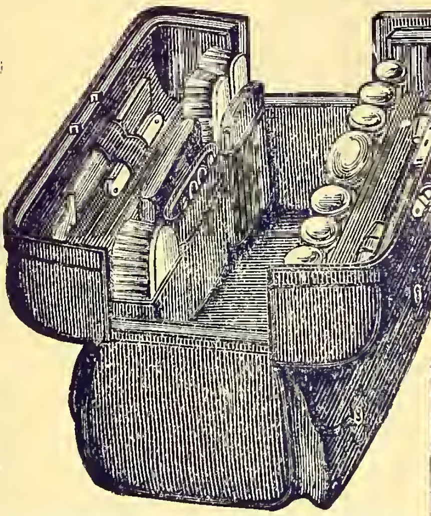

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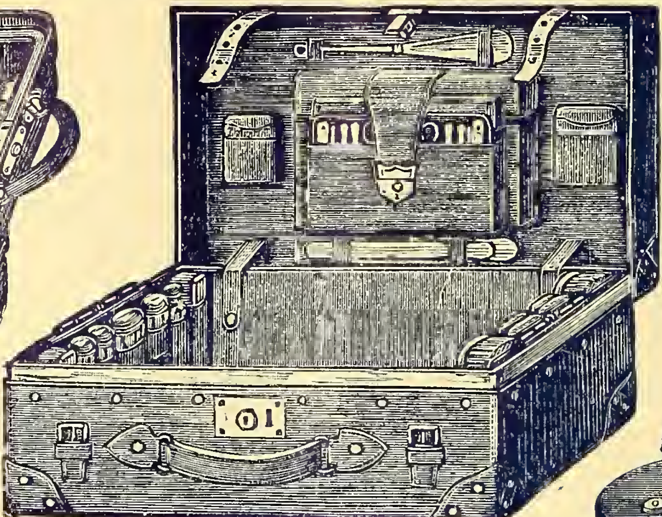

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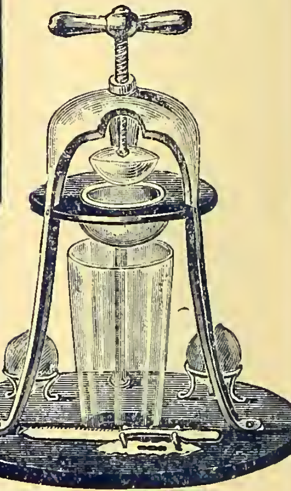

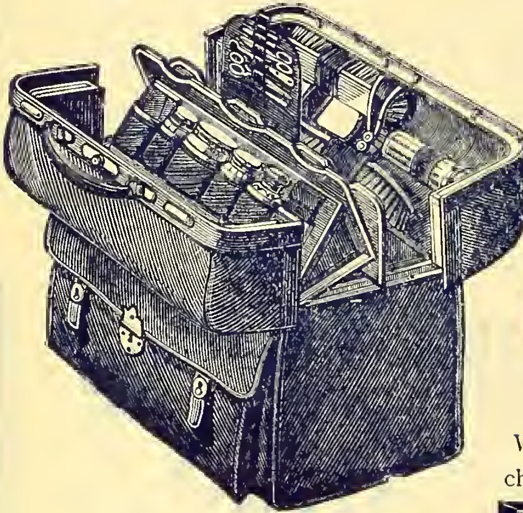

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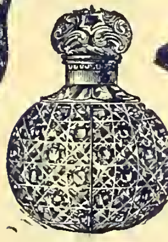

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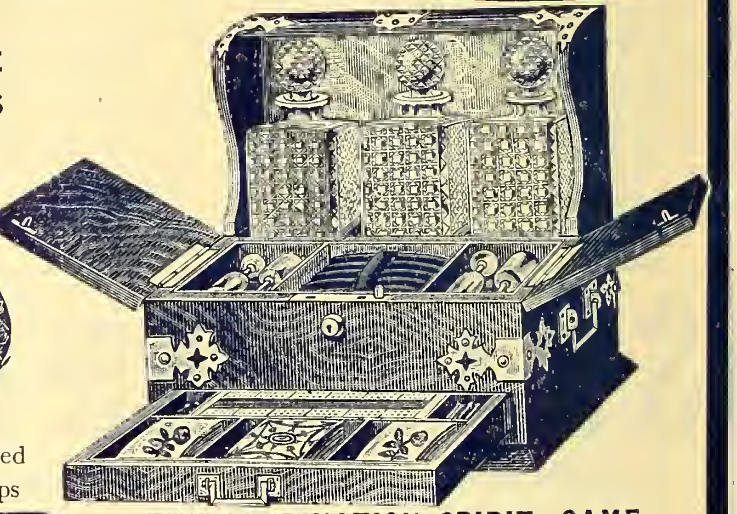

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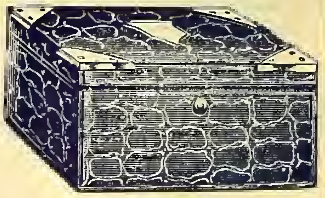

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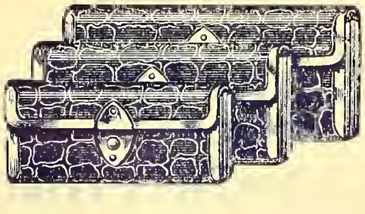

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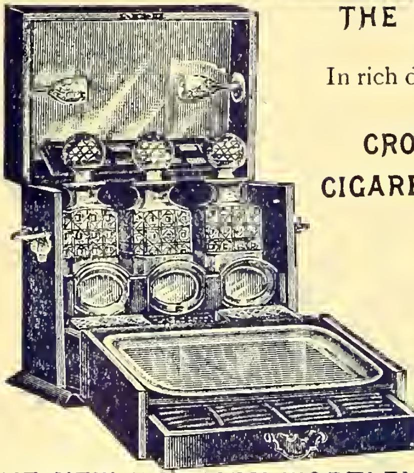

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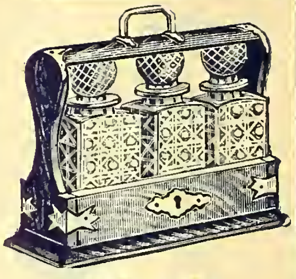

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The
Watchmaker, Jeweler and Silversmith.

EDITED BY W. J. LEWIS ABBOTT, F.G.S.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.] [*Registered for Transmission Abroad.*

VOL. XIX.—NO. 11.] MAY 1, 1894. [Subscription, 5s. per Annum. Post Free. Single Copies, 6d.; 7½d. by Post.

NOTICE OF OUR REMOVAL.

WE are pleased to inform our readers that our business has entirely outgrown the room afforded by the offices at 68, Fleet-street. Our friends will kindly note that our new address is

150, HOLBORN, E.C.
(CORNER OF GRAY'S INN ROAD).

IN THE INTERESTS OF THE TRADE.

NO CUTTING PRICES!

Cutting prices are not allowed to be advertised in this Journal; and no prices of any kind can be permitted to appear except such as come under the following headings:—

1. **Retail or selling prices to the public.**
2. **The prices of patented or registered articles, or special articles manufactured and sold by one firm alone.**
3. **The prices of outfits, plants, tools, instruments, materials, publications, &c., intended for, or used by the trade.**

The kindly co-operation of all advertisers is invited.

The Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith.
Published on the 1st of each month by the Proprietors,
HEYWOOD & COMPANY, LIMITED.
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(CORNER OF GRAY'S INN-ROAD).
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Telephone No. 2,882.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The Annual Subscription throughout the World is 5s., including postage; and it is payable in all cases in advance. Single current numbers are charged at 6d. each, 7½d. by post.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—There is a fixed printed tariff for trade advertisements, which will be forwarded on application. All prepaid situation and similar advertisements are inserted at 6d. per line (minimum 1s.). Name and Address in the Buyers Guide, One Guinea per annum, payable in advance.

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS.—Manuscripts should be written clearly on one side of the paper only, and should in every case be accompanied by the name and address of the sender; where payment is expected, a definite statement to that effect should be made. The Editor cannot be responsible for missing MSS., but every care will be taken of copy submitted for consideration.

INQUIRIES.—Information is given, whenever possible, to inquirers, who are requested to assist by giving the fullest details of the matters to which their questions relate. In special cases replies will be given through the post, and for this purpose addressed and stamped envelopes must be supplied.

PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, & DESIGNS.—Arrangements have been made with an expert whereby subscribers to this journal can receive information respecting these free of charge. Letters of inquiry must be addressed to the Editor of THE WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, AND SILVERSMITH, Patents, Trade Marks, and Design Department, 150, Holborn, London, E.C., and must in every case contain stamped and directed envelope for reply.

ENTRE NOUS
HARPOCRATES.

BY THE EDITOR.

THE KEW REPORT.

ONCE more the interesting table setting forth the results of the Kew Competition for another year is before the trade, and the list, showing the performance of the thirty-four watches which secured the highest numbers of marks under the critical ordeals to which the timesters are subjected by the scientific tribunal of Kew, is elsewhere given in this journal. Upon the whole it is a record of excellent results. The first position is again secured by a single overcoil, going barrel tourbillon chronometer, which is another confirmation of the superiority of watches of this construction. Each of the characters could be separately singled out and a great deal pointed out in their favor, despite prejudices which unfoundedly exist against them. We will not, however, stop to raise the question of the merits of the going barrel, but we cannot refrain from a word or two upon the tourbillon, especially as we recently heard a watchmaker in a large way observe that it was not so safe to carry as an ordinary chronometer. No doubt the special features of the two had been pointed out to the worthy horologer, but unfortunately he had forgotten which of the two it was that was likely to stop upon a sudden slight jerk, such as has frequently been known to take place when alighting from a railway carriage. But the evil does not rest with the tourbillon, but with the other; indeed, the very idea of the "protective carriage" in the tourbillon is to guard against and counteract those very defects of the chronometer. It will be noticed that the top place is again secured by the well-known firm of Stauffer, Son and Co., and that the position gained is high above all competitors: the same firm also came out first in the minutes and seconds chronographs, which, if such a thing were necessary, would speak of the excellence of the firm's productions, upon which we trust we may be allowed to congratulate them. Another feature noticeable is the large proportion of watches passed by the Watch City; out of the total of thirty-four no fewer than twenty-four hail from Coventry, and, perhaps, we may also be allowed to say, "Bravo Coventry!" Turning to the complicated watches, we are pleased to note a genuine all-round improvement in numbers of marks awarded, and there can be no doubt that these interesting specimens of the grandest and most skilful combinations of horological brains are among the most marvellous and skilful productions ever achieved by mortal man. We were led to notice the difference between this and last year's mean by the minute repeaters, where the difference—as it also is in other cases is very great. At the commencement of the operation of the Merchandise Marks Act, the English trade had it thrown in its face that complicated work could not be executed in this country; but now all see that it not only *can*, but that it has been improving in quality since the English makers turned their attention to it. And in keeping with our former remarks we would say "Bravo, English—we *can* do it, and let us say we *will*." And as in the past so let it be in the future: the word English shall be expressive of the superlative.

THE CLOCK AND WATCH MAKERS' ASYLUM REPORT.

THE recently-issued report of this excellent institution for last year is of so encouraging a nature that we feel in duty bound to give some of its details. That it has been a red-letter year in the midst of depression will be admitted by all, and we can hardly expect another of its equal; indeed we must not rest upon our oars this year, it will be necessary to pull extra hard to prevent a falling-off in the ordinary revenue. It will be remembered that the committee in their last report expressed their anxiety to build a widows' house during the year, towards which they already had £400 in hand. This has been accomplished; the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths have presented £200, and the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers have awarded £30 per annum towards its endowment, and donations and legacies to the extent of £700 have been invested, which will permanently endow this house. Then came the munificent gifts of Mrs. Spring, not only of £350 to build a house, but £1,000 worth of Consols to endow it. In addition to this the treasurer has received two legacies during the year, one from the late W. M. Johnson, Esq., of £200, and the other from the late Miss Julia Collier of £112 5s. 9d., and we are sure the whole trade will join us in expressing their best appreciation of the part played by the treasurer, Mr. P. Woodman, which has resulted in two new houses, and such a large increase to the Endowment Fund.

The balance-sheet shows a lot of contributions of £10 10s. each from the wives and daughters of subscribers, as well as donations from some not actually in the trade, such as the Revs. H. L. Nelthorpp and H. S Cronin, M.A., as also from the Drapers' and Skinners' Companies. But all these extra results mean extra work, therefore all the more credit is due to the officers of the institution.

A TRADE INJUSTICE.

THERE is nothing the genuine and straighforward trader fears but illegal and unlawful competition. It is true that business in this country is not a victim to contraband trade, as we have that destroyer of many evils—Free-trade—in full operation. Recently, when the heavy import duties were suggested upon diamonds in the United States, the trade rose *en masse*, and declared that the incentive to smuggling would be so great that with such a margin as the proposed duty, illicit trading would cut their business from under their feet. No doubt it would have put the American trade in a very awkward and unfair position. Now there is no difference in import duty and trade duty, or license to act, and if the Government extract a license from the members of a trade, no one ought to be allowed to act in that trade without paying the legal license. We are always glad to see convictions for "selling plate without a license," and we only complain that there is so little energy displayed by the officials in bringing offenders to justice. When do we hear, for example, of hosiers being sued, who openly display more jewelry than many jewelers, with all the effrontery of hardened offenders? We have again and again called public attention to this evil, yet still it exists. Recently we have, unfortunately, come across another set of evaders of the law who go unscathed. We were in a wholesale house when a foreigner appeared, soliciting orders for gold and silver watches. "That is the fourth of these fellows to-day," replied the manager, "and I will guarantee that not one of them pays a license, although he gets his living by selling gold and silver." The watches are all imported and sent through the Customs. There is no duty to pay, it is true, but the question is whether the Government ought not to be a little more particular, and require at least the license receipt from the consignee. Whether the officers of Inland Revenue take the initiative or not, we think it is a great injustice upon *bona fide* importers who not only pay the licenses, but contribute towards the rates and taxes, and so help to pay for the luxuries of civilisation which we and all on British soil enjoy. It may also commend itself to the Trade Association, as it is doubtless a great injustice upon the wholesale trade, and one to which a stop should be put; and inasmuch as it is a widespread evil, we feel it is a question which falls within the province of the Association. One thing we fear, that if they do not deal with it no one else will, and so the evil will continue to exist.

THE "RUBY" CASE.

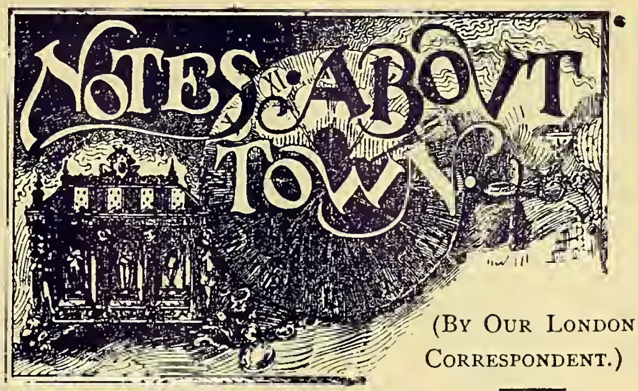
THE remarkable "Ruby" case elsewhere reported in our columns is a subject for much reflection, and its occurrence is a matter of great regret, because affairs like these are always adversely commented upon by people who know nothing of the facts, or who try to make themselves clever or witty at anyone's expense. Owing to the sweeping reports of this discreditable transaction, all Bond-street jewelers are at least mentally associated with the worst side of the case, as naturally the public are led to think it refers to one of those representative houses in the jewel street. The keeper of a miniature shop engaged in the sale of prints, nick-nacks, and second-hand jewelry, ought not to be confounded with a West End jeweler, as he has no claim upon the trade whatever. That the knowledge of gems possessed by the proprietor of a certain shop in the Arcade is of a very curious character, could easily be seen on passing by it, for here we have seen gems marked up with names that we should suppose never had any existence at all outside the ill-informed brain of their originator. Sometimes we have noticed they bear a fanciful phonetic resemblance to the name of a gem, but not of the one to which the name is affixed, and we should often have felt differently inclined towards these facts did we not recognise that there are so many who could do very little better. It appears at first sight wholly incredible that a man should have the audacity to call himself a jeweler, and yet admit that "he knows nothing more about a ruby than a baby unborn." The way in which such a statement as this is received by the public is best estimated by the comments which it has drawn from the public Press throughout the length and breadth of the land. But there is one important lesson to be drawn from this case, and that is that no matter whether a guarantee of the nature of a stone is given or not, if the price charged is such as to lead the purchaser to suppose it to be something other than it really is, he has a legal remedy. Mr. Justice Hawkins told the jury, in his summing up of the case, that it was not necessary that an express guarantee should be given with the gem. If the defendant *represented* the stone to be a ruby, and the plaintiff bought it upon the strength of that representation, he would be entitled to damages. It is, however, quite possible that neither of the parties really did know whether the thing was a ruby or not; and then crops up a point which has often been raised by moralists. Had the counterfeit turned out a pigeon's-blood ruby, worth a thousand pounds—which a three-carat perfection stone really would be—the vendor, by the terms of his bargain, would have no further claim on the prodigious profits arising from his not fully realising the value of the gem. It is evident that the buyer thought he was getting a bargain, and that upon his assumed judgment he bought the doublet, believing it to be a ruby. When a man buys £100 worth of stock on 'Change as a speculation, not knowing whether it is going to turn out worth £1,000 or worse than nothing, if the thing proves of the latter nature he cannot come down even upon the expert who reported upon the property. The circumstances of the case go to show that this "deal" was a transaction of much the same nature as a Stock Exchange speculation, and, as such, has nothing whatever to do with the trade of the jeweler. That people should attempt to deal with things they do not understand is, of course, to be deeply regretted, and is against all principles of fair trade; still, such business cannot be stopped. If people have valuables of which they wish to dispose, there are plenty of firms laying themselves out to buy second-hand articles, which will be pleased to give a fair price for them. At the same time we fully realise it would be hard to make the public believe that a man like the defendant in this case should develop and carry on a good business, should pose himself before the public as a jeweler, and yet not know a worthless bit of glass from an ideal jewel worth £1,000! As to how many more there are in the same condition we should not like to say, and should like anyone else to say it even less. But we think this case ought to make everyone who poses as a jeweler ask himself: "Should I know a ruby worth £30 a carat from one worth £300, or should I even know a worthless garnet-glass doublet from a genuine pigeon's-blood ruby, and, if not, where can I get that knowledge?"

The Clock and Watch Makers' Asylum.

THE forty-first annual meeting of the Clock and Watch Makers' Asylum, New Southgate, was held on the 16th ult., at the Horological Institute, Northampton-square, with Mr. R. H. Halford in the chair, when Richard Deboor, seventy-two, was elected a pensioner. The report presented was of a most interesting nature. Special reference was, of course, made to the generosity of Mrs. Spring, which has been our pleasant duty to report upon several times during the year. The committee also expressed their indebtedness to the Goldsmiths' and Clock Makers' Companies for their continued assistance. The report having been adopted, Mr. Brooks moved a vote of thanks to the treasurer, which, needless to say, was carried with acclamation, to which Mr. Woodman replied, pointing out the great interest he had always taken in the asylum, and assuring those present he should continue to do the same. Some other business having been transacted, the proceedings closed with an acknowledgment of the services of the chairman.

Lectures on Clocks and Watches.—It is remarkable how few public lectures are given upon these interesting pieces of mechanism, although they offer such a wide field of treatment, and bristle at a thousand points with features of interest. Recently M. Marshall, of the Charterhouse, chose them as his subject before the aristocratic Haslemere Microscopic and Natural History Society, and interested the members of the society, which formerly included the late Professor Tyndall in its lists.

Important Legislation.—The London County Council have succeeded in getting a very important Bill through its second reading, which enacts that after a certain day no more wooden signs shall be erected for business purposes within the jurisdiction of the London County Council, but that all signs shall be composed entirely of iron, steel, or other fire-resisting appliances.



NOTES ABOUT TOWN.

(BY OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.)

I DO not wish to be hypercritical, but I cannot help feeling slightly disappointed at a great many of the novelties which are making their appearance upon the market. We have now got entirely new materials and new modes of treatment, and we ought to be able to have created something *sui generis.* I do not say that this laudable ideal has not been here and there realised, but in the majority of cases it is painful to see the same old forms repeated *ad nauseum*, merely treated in a new style. The same old horse-shoe, the same old double heart, the same old tie—the same old everything; and the worst of it is they are frequently patterns wholly and altogether unsuitable for the new treatment. Many manufacturers appear to have a set of stereotyped patterns; and if pearls come in, they use the white waxy gem; if some quartz-stone be popular, well, they use that; and when enamels come in, they fall back upon the vitreous ornamentation. Perhaps it may be the working off of old patterns, and, if so, from a manufacturer's point of view, it is not to be censured.

I AM happy to say there are scores and scores of exceptions to the above conditions, and not only do many of the productions call strongly to mind the period of the finest French art, but many may be considered as really new of their kind. In numerous articles of jewelry the lovely Gothic ovals are employed, and with their grain-set edges, their lines of opaque white enamel, separately or edging transparent enamels, and with the gems similarly grain-set, are really charming productions.

ANOTHER revival calls to mind the same period of high art. It is the employment of the charming little gems of cameos, cut by those grand old masters who were formerly engaged by Wedgwood. These delicate blue and white specimens of the glyptic art are just as much cameos as if they were cut from stone. The mode of manufacture is exactly identical, and they were cut with the diamond point precisely as are stone cameos. By many people it may be thought, they are "only stamped." If, however, fine specimens are examined, it will at once be realised that the stamp, so all-sufficient in many cases, could never turn out articles like these. Hence it is that being such beautiful gems, they are being sought after as such, and no doubt undoubted genuine fine old specimens will fetch half their weight in £5 notes. At the same time it is an error to suppose that Wedgwoods cannot turn out specimens anything like the great-grand parent firm. Some years ago the present head of the family observed to a friend, "If anyone who understands Wedgwood says that we cannot make such fine specimens as our forefathers, show him that piece."

AMONGST the effective novelties now being shown, I noted a black velvet bow stuck through with a hair-pin, in the two looped members of which were two diamond ornaments. It really looked like a huge diamond bow. For the purpose almost any diamond ornaments could be used, although symmetrical patterns, of course, are most appropriate.

There can now be seen in several West End displays examples of gold-mounted amber cigar and cigarette holders. The gold is sometimes wet and sometimes dry colored. At times these smokers' luxuries are plain patterns, but more frequently the precious metal is nicely pierced, with or without the addition of engraving; while sometimes here and there a turquoise, or a cabochon ruby, is set, calling to mind the displays of some Oriental Imperial palace or divan. Indeed, if these jeweled smokers' accessories become fashionable, it would not be at all surprising to see another and even successful attempt at the introduction of the hookah.

What a large amount of tortoise-shell is being shown in all the best windows. One wonders if it is the genuine material, from the quantity of it that is shown; but there it is, displayed by the very best houses. At any rate, if it is one of the new compositions, which I suppose it must be, it is quite indistinguishable without critical examination, and then its artificial character could only be detected by a qualified person. This material is made up into a large number of toilet requisites—combs, brushes, *bonbonnieres*, mirror frames, trays, and those sorts of things; also into clock-cases of various patterns and stationery articles. Amongst the latter there appears a quantity of a new article, or, rather, a revived one, that is taking well just now in a number of patterns. It is a letter-clip. When this "tortoise-shell" is employed for the finger substitute, sometimes the base is of the rich yellow and brown material, and the clip a silver monogram, or some other suitable device. The decoration in all cases appears about equally divided between gilt work and silver. In the former, galleries are largely employed, and in the latter the credentials of quality—the hall mark, which some would obliterate—stand out proclaiming to the world the excellency of the article, and assuring us that the article is really first-class. Imitations, cheap and nasty, with a farthing's worth of silver spread over them, can easily be made to deceive the public, but the uplifted foot of the lion reminds all that they dare not raise a word against the quality of the article he stands there to protect.

Upon the whole, I think, perhaps, silver is gaining ground, which is saying a good deal when one remembers the thousands of articles for which the precious white metal is employed. What a number of designs one sees in cigar lamps! The terebratulum, or "Roman lamp," is in favor just now, although many of the patterns take us back to the days of Greece and Egypt. The old Greek incense altar forms a charming design for these things. In these there is a tangible relation of the article to the office it is to perform, but there are also articles of a comical character, such as a clown in a burlesque attitude with hot poker in hand, from the end of which he offers a light.

There is a gentleman's silver card-case which is taking just now, and will probably be a lasting form. Instead of opening at the smaller end, with any of the various joints, it opens at the side, and there is no lid. The bottom corners are very slightly rounded, and in the centre of the upper edge there is a hollow cut for the finger and thumb to enable one to lift out the cards with ease. Of course it is the smallest thing possible, and is intended for the vest pocket. Amongst other silver things numerous books upon easels are prominent. These are of a variety of patterns, sometimes plain and simple, at others quite elaborate, now the book is merely simulated and fixed in an open position, showing the spaces for one or two portraits, and now it is a veritable silver album, the pictured leaves of which can be turned over.

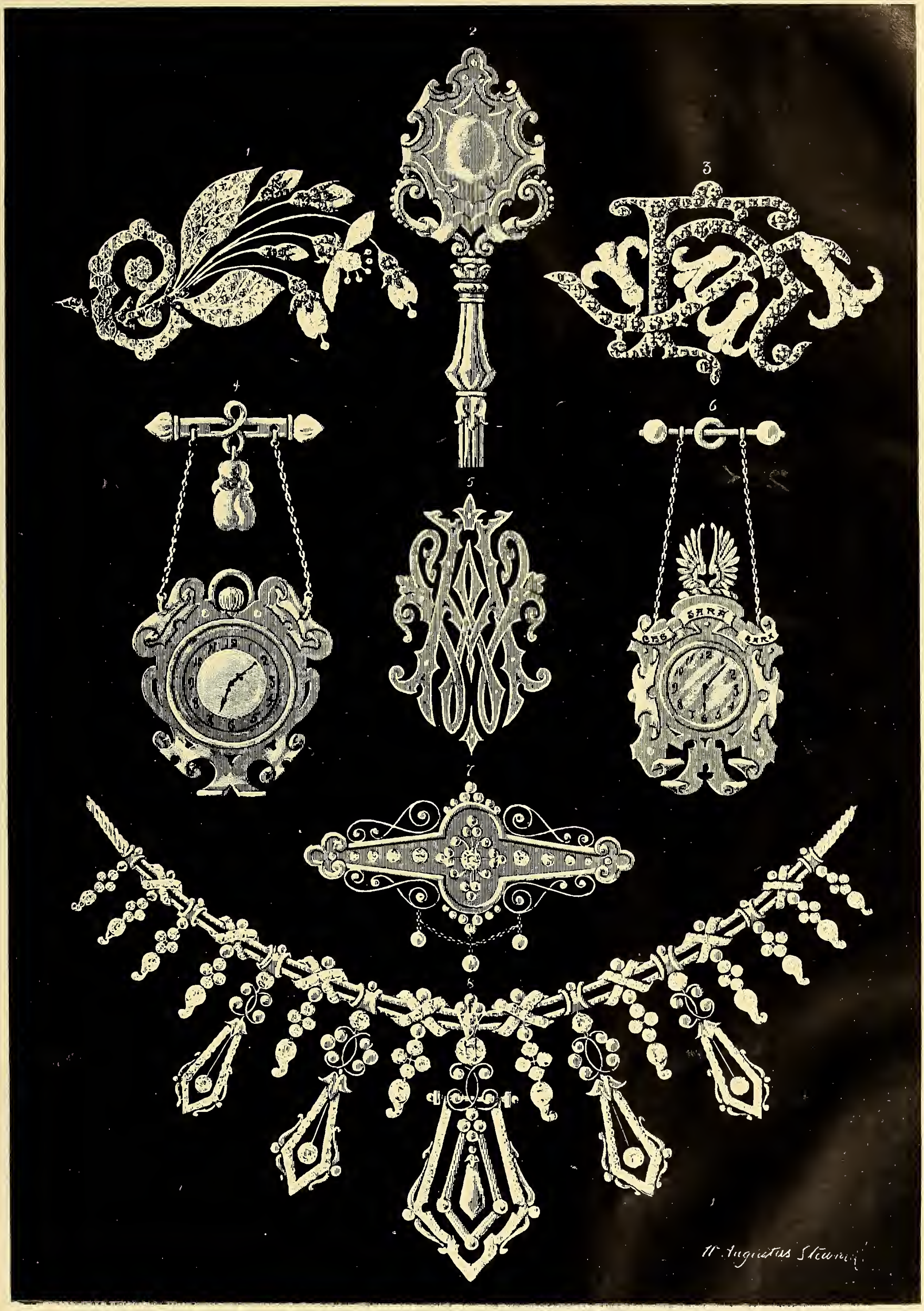
I am pleased to say that the opal is still growing in favor. I see my notes in regard to it have been copied by the public and fashion Press all over the country, sometimes with acknowledgment, at others without it. Now and then one paper or another has tried to add something of its own, and this has oftentimes been highly amusing; for instance, I note a leading Society journal talks about the gloss and *sheen* of the fascinating gem. Of the qualities of gems or their characteristics the public Press, of course, knows absolutely nothing, but it is in a position to be able to say what is worn at fashionable gatherings, and upon this point it is most emphatic, that "the most noticeable feature in new jewelry for the season is the undoubted vogue of the opal," and that "the opal is indubitably going to be the stone of the season."

A novel window has recently made its appearance in Bond-street; it is a kind of Moorish design carved out in pierced and moulded wood, covered with flesh-pink silk velvet, over the upper part of which is extended an oxidised scroll with silver letters, the inside arrangement being suggested by one of the designs given some time ago in the pages of the "W., J., S., and O."

But your readers may think that I have too much to say about West End matters. Well, I know who are the prominent leaders of fashion, and it is from these pointers can be had. The wholesale houses do not report a worse state of affairs generally. That business is bad goes without saying. One has only to take up a newspaper and see that every company and institution, charity and religious organisation is absolutely going backwards! It is thus something if one can find from the general consensus of trade opinion that we are not all drifting out to sea, to be ultimately wrecked, but, on the contrary, that there are good signs of the horizon clearing up a bit, while here and there we find a craft gliding pleasantly along under full sail, and some getting along with a reef or two in the sails.

I recently went over the warehouse of J. Round and Son, as I had heard they had got on view another lot of new patterns. I was extremely interested at what I saw; the tea-sets were excellent, the patterns good, taking, and in keeping with the pervading fashion, while the make and finish leave nothing to be desired. An inexpressible delight always creeps over me as I gaze upon a well-designed, well-executed bit of work; as I grasp the handle of a pot and move its lid up and down it has such a soothing effect on my nerves, which are all set the wrong way under opposite conditions. I was also very much taken with some new patterns in candlesticks, which the manager informs me are still selling as well as ever. Of course that must be so when one sees the large numbers in which they enter the list of wedding presents published from time to time. Lamps, too, have got to become not only a regular article of stock, but since they were taken up by the trade some magnificent designs have appeared, and of these Rounds show a splendid collection. I see I have got a whole page of notes that I took when passing through their warehouse, but as I have already exceeded my allotted space I must, I suppose, reserve these.

There was one thing I saw the other day which, from its absolute novelty, I must not let pass. Passing through the galleries of Atkin Bros., I noted two superb double toilet or washstand sets in E.P. The huge basin was about 18in. in diameter, and the jug, of a Greek design, of a very beautiful fluted pattern. All the articles were of course of the same pattern, and it was interesting to see what a number of pieces there were; there were certain articles, however, in which the receptacle or linings were made of glass, fluted on the outside to the same pattern.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W. Augustus Stevens

OUR SPECIAL PLATE.

No. 1. Design for wedding or other brooch, consisting of initial and spray of cherry blossom, to be in diamonds or rubies. The leaves in diamonds, the buds in emeralds and diamonds, with pearl drops or gold beads, or the whole could be carried out in gold, partly gilt.

No. 2. Design for head and stem of gold presentation key. The head would be in full relief, the scrolls and scroll edges being well modelled. The stems should be *made*, not cast. The husks to stand cup-like, clasping the flutes.

No. 3. Design for seasonable brooch. In diamonds, rubies, and emeralds. The hyacinth lends itself admirably for setting—the stem being of such a sturdy character. The stem, of course, in emeralds. The buds in diamonds. The initial in rubies.

No. 4. Design for the new brooch or chatelaine watch-holder. The shield should be hand-made, the scrolls being carefully and tastefully modelled.

No. 5. Monogram W. A., for mounting in gold or silver, on blotters, purses, books, etc., or enamelling, engraving, or carving.

No. 6. Design for new brooch or chatelaine watch, with crest and motto introduced. In this, as in No. 4, enamel can be introduced with excellent effect.

No. 7. Design for brooch in gold and gems. The frame should be of bright gold. The centre ornament and drops of pearls, the other stones diamonds.

No. 8. Design for necklet, in diamonds and half-pearls. Enamel, *au naturel*, could be introduced to advantage in the bands or chain, also in centre drop and on the husks. The drops should all be allowed full play.

The Printer Man Again.—By an unfortunate error on the part of the compositor, the well-known name of J. W. Tonks, of the firm of T. and J. Bragg, Birmingham, became J. W. Jinks in our last number, and by a remarkable coincidence of circumstances we were unable to correct it. Still we have no doubt that all our readers realised it as a misprint, as it would have been impossible for one to hold a position claimed in the paragraph for Mr. Tonks without being known to the trade, and nobody ever heard of J. W. Jinks, and everybody knows that Mr. J.W. Tonks is a member of the firm of T. and J. Bragg.

The Goldsmith's Art.—The allusions to Birmingham productions being "Brummagen" are, we are happy to say, fast dying out, and should anyone in the trade ever use the term, we should like to show them many of the productions of Jewelopolis that have passed through our hands. We have recently had the pleasure of seeing some very creditable specimens executed by Messrs. Henry Griffith and Sons, Warstone-lane, Birmingham, consisting of cigarette cases and match-boxes evidently destined for the use of Eastern potentates. A description of one of these articles will doubtless be interesting to our readers. A cigarette case of somewhat large dimensions made in 18 carat gold weighing 10½oz., the body of which is entirely overlaid with dead sawpierced and carved ornamentation, and in the centre of one side is a large diamond monogram. The design, which is Persian, has been faithfully adhered to, and has been most carefully and delicately carried out. The workmanship, especially the carving, and the perfection of finish leave nothing to be desired. We are glad that in this age of cheapness there are among the Birmingham manufacturers those who can, when desired, give proof of the preservation and development of the goldsmith's art. A shrewd old critic, but, perhaps, a rather personal one, recently observed of this firm that it was unlike many old firms who had gone to the dogs through the incapacity of the later generation. Each generation had improved upon the foregoing one. Of that we will not attempt to judge; we can remember the name as long as we can almost any in the trade, and in all our time we remember them turning out excellent productions.

Another New Timester for Manchester.—An imposing four-dialled clock, with 5ft. illuminated dials, has recently been put up by the Corporation of Manchester, in the tower of the new buildings of Cheetham Baths. The work was executed by John Smith and Sons, Derby.

Messrs. Stokes and Ireland, Ltd., of Birmingham, appear to be bringing out every month something in hall-marked silver to attract the most lethargic of buyers. This month they are offering a full size tea and coffee set, which is a marvel of cheapness.

The Clock and Watchmakers' Asylum Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting in connection with the above excellent institution was held at the Horological Institute on the 16th ult., R. H. Handford in the chair. There was a large attendance to hear with pleasure the exceptionally favorable report of the committee and to elect an inmate. The latter resulted in favor of R. Debor, Galway-street, St. Luke's, who secured 1,957 votes. The Chairman on the occasion was well supported by Messrs. John Woodman (Deputy Chairman), Philip Woodman (Treasurer), J. A. Clémence, S. A. Brooks, R. W. Cole, W. Barnsdale, L. Donne, H. M. Gaydon, T. Vine, T. Vine, junr., W. R. Corke, J. Walton, F. Thoms, A. Daldorph, J. J. Elliott, T. Law, A. T. Briggs, T. Woodland Taylor, Cole, junr., and many others.

The Chairman proposed the adoption of the reports of the committee and auditors; the former was seconded by T. Vine, who naturally expressed his pleasure in so doing, and assured the meeting of his deeply-rooted interest in the prosperity of the noble institution. He then referred in detail to the exceptionally fortunate year of prosperity enjoyed by the Society, calling special attention to the munificent gifts of Mrs. Spring, to which it has been our pleasure to refer on several occasions. The generous grants from the two great City Companies were also thankfully referred to. In these the Goldsmiths' Company were represented by a £300 donation, and the far less rich Clockmakers' by £51. He felt the balance-sheet submitted was a remarkable one, and he only hoped that should the institution need it again, it would find friends and benefactors as liberal as those of the past year to come to its aid.—J. A. Clémence, in seconding the auditor's report, said that he concurred with Mr. Vine that they had reason to be thankful for such very satisfactory results from last year's work. The expenditure had been about the usual amount; but in the receipts, although the subscriptions showed a slight falling-off, that was not to be wondered at when they considered the depressed state of the trade in Clerkenwell. They ought, therefore, to be the more grateful for the windfalls which it was their good fortune to have received last year, and chief amongst these was the handsome donation of Mrs. Spring, in memory of her husband, whose kindly interest in this and many similar trade charities would not be soon forgotten, but, on the contrary, gratefully remembered. (Applause.) Several other generous friends had opportunely come to their assistance, and amongst these were the munificent gifts of the Goldsmiths' and Clockmakers' Companies. (Hear, hear.)

S. A. Brooks, in moving that P. Woodman be requested to assent to his re-election as treasurer, paid a just and warm tribute of praise to that gentleman, to whose exertions they owed much of their success and the prosperity which they were all no doubt pleased had come to the lot of their admirable institution during the last year. It was worthy of note that every person connected with the management of the asylum's affairs, with the exception of the secretary, whose onerous and constantly-rendered services were entitled to remuneration, gave his time and labor gratuitously. (Hear, hear.)

H. M. Gaydon, in seconding the motion, brought his personal knowledge to emphasise the value of Mr. Woodman's services, sentiments which were subsequently echoed by the chairman.

In reply, Mr. Woodman said he thanked them most sincerely for the great honor they had done him in electing him for the third time as treasurer; and he trusted that this year might be as good and fruitful in gifts and donations as last year, when, through the kindness of Mrs. Spring and other benefactors, the committee were enabled to build two widows' houses, and he was pleased to say the last of the four old ladies had just that day been comfortably placed in her new home. (Cheers.) He would endeavour to do all he could, and hoped that by the continuance of united effort the present prosperity would be maintained.

J. Woodman moved, and W. R. Corke seconded, that T. Vine, R. W. Cole, R. H. Halford, J. Thwaites, and C. Dunn be re-elected on the committee, the meetings of which they regularly attended in the past, and did all in their power to promote the well-being of the institution. (Hear, hear.) Which was carried and replied to by Mr. T. Vine, who assured the meeting of the committee's willing wishes to do everything for the comfort of the inmates of the asylum.

W. Barnsdale proposed, and J. Woodman seconded, the re-election of W. R. Corke, J. J. Stockall, M.L.S.B., J. Usher, and J. Walton, as auditors, and complimented these gentlemen on the very efficient manner in which they had discharged their duties in former years, which was unanimously carried, and responded to by W. R. Corke.

H. M. Gaydon pointed out that amidst the encomiums paid on munificent benefactors of the Asylum, they must not be unmindful of the late Miss Julia Collier, who last year had bequeathed £112, or of the late Mr. W. M. Johnson, of Threadneedle-street, who had left £200 to the funds of their institution. These remarks were received with continued cheering.

S. A. Brooks proposed, and J. A. Clémence seconded, a vote of thanks to the scrutineers; R. W. Cole proposed, and J. A. Clémence seconded, that the sympathy of the meeting be carried to their esteemed secretary in his present illness. Thanks were also returned to the chairman and the Press.

The Prescot Dispute.

AN unfortunate crisis has been reached at Prescot, which has resulted in empty benches, and the return to Coventry of men who had gone to Prescot with the idea of making a fair or good living. We had heard both sides of the question from the representatives of the two sides, but there is still more to be learned, so that in the meantime we reproduce a report from our contemporary, the *Prescot Reporter*, which we think gives both sides of the question:—

A hitch or dispute of an unpleasant character has unfortunately occurred at the Lancashire Watch Factory, Prescot, and the department in which the disaffection has arisen is that of the matchers or escapement makers, a dozen of whom are for the present out of work, and from what we can learn are likely to remain so unless they consent to accept the terms now offered them by the management. From what can be learned it appears that on the morning of the Grand National about a dozen men asked permission to visit the races at Liverpool. They were told that they could not be spared, but the men immediately put on their coats and walked out of the place. Consequently (as an official stated) they had not been allowed to return. That was because they had defied the management in absenting themselves. At that time the men were being paid 7s. per tray, but the company had for a long time been considering the question of a reduction. The machinery in the factory had been improved and the material had also been so improved by the introduction of machinery that the work was almost ceasing to be skilled labor. The men can do the work easier, and instead of taking advantage of the improvements they simply sat still and frittered their time away. They knew that if they did more than a certain amount of work attention would be immediately directed to them. In one instance (an official stated) some of the men had earned so much money that the others threatened to break their heads if these men continued. The management thus knew that the work could be done, and decided to allow the men to come back on a reduction of 2s. per tray. They could on the reduction earn nearly 50s. per week, but the men refused the offer and it had since been withdrawn. The men would not be taken back on any account. The improvements and patents belong to the company, and there is no place in England which does the same amount of work by machinery. A further step was being taken. They were introducing machinery which would dispense with the men altogether, and the work would be done by raw lads. It would be a question with the management as to whether fresh hands would be taken on. They had been a little inconvenienced, but the production had not been in any way stopped. It had been slightly deranged, but they expected to be straight again in the course of eight or ten days. On Saturday morning last the men demanded their wages, but were only paid up to the Wednesday week previously, the week in the factory ending on Wednesday. The men alleged that the average wage is 26s. per week, some men making 21s. per week, and the more expert 42s. per week, the reduction thus averaging from 5s. to 10s. a week. The men also say there is plenty of work at the factory and the only reason for the reduction of wage seems to be a desire on the part of the management to curtail expenses. The secretary of the Prescot branch, so far as the men are concerned, states that since the works were started a number of men had been brought from Coventry under the belief that they were to receive better wages. They complain that after a few weeks, and when the married men had gone to the expense of bringing their families to Prescot, they were offered terms for piecework which they deemed insufficient. They accepted the terms under protest, and in the hope that no further reduction would be made. However, about two months ago, some further friction occurred between the men and the manager of the company, the result being that the men received an increase of pay varying from 1s. to 4s. per week, according to the ability of the worker. After this, matters went on smoothly until Friday, the 30th March, when notice was given of a reduction in piece prices equal to 30 per cent, or from 5s. to 12s. a week. This the men refused to accept, the result being that on the following day they were told that if they did not agree to the terms offered they must quit the place. Deputations of the men were afterwards appointed to negotiate with Mr. Charles Hewett, the manager of the company; but no arrangements having been arrived at, the men were ordered to remove their tools last Thursday. The tools were removed on the following day, and since then work in the escapement department, in which these men were employed, has been at a standstill. The matter has now been taken up by the National Watchmakers' and Jewelers' Trade Society, who, if the struggle is prolonged, intend to appeal to trade unionists for assistance to the locked-out men. A meeting of a deputation from the Liverpool branch of the last named society with the men out on strike was held on Monday night at the Red Lion Hotel, Prescot, the club house of the men's society. The secretary of the Prescot branch of the National Watchmakers' and Jewelers' Society had prepared a statement in reply to the "official" version of the affair published above. In this he states that the men visited the Grand National at their own risk, and on their return to work three of them were discharged, and the remainder of them were offered a reduction in their wages of 30 per cent., or from 5s. to 12s. per week. It was absolutely untrue to say that the men had frittered away their time, as it took all their skill and ability to make "a living wage." It was also an untruth to say that the men could earn 50s. per week on the proposed reduction.

Mr. W. A. Newcombe, of Liverpool, in the course of a vigorous speech, said the whole aim of the officials at the factory was to reduce the men's wages by underhand means. It was decided to seek the sympathy of their fellow workmen and fight until victory was assured.

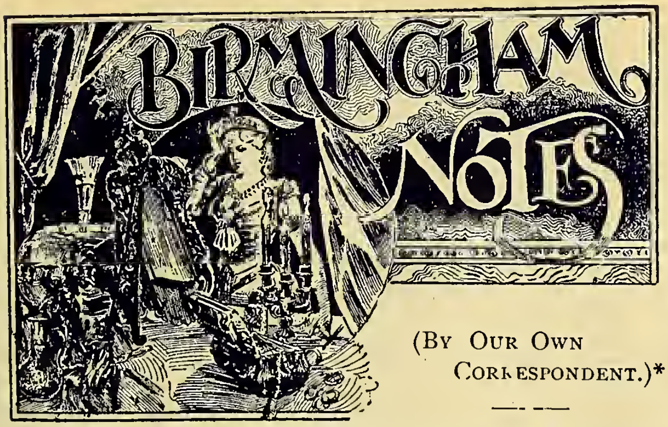
The position of affairs still remains the same and there is no indication of the dispute being settled.

Our Colonial Number.

NEXT month will be published the Colonial Number of THE WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, SILVERSMITH AND OPTICIAN. It will contain a vast amount of interesting and valuable matter, and will be mailed in large numbers all over the world.

A Find.—A valuable diamond, lost twenty years ago in Birmingham, was recently discovered in repairing a safe. It appears that the wife of the owner of the iron secreter had placed it at the back of a drawer, and had forgotten where she put it. The man who found it considers it his, as the safe has since changed hands, but the son of the loser thinks otherwise.

Nemesis Overtakes a Jewel Thief.—We don't usually refer to thefts of jewels perpetrated upon any but jewelers, but recently a circumstance occurred which is such a remarkable coincidence that it shows that "truth is stranger than fiction." It appears the Duchess of Manchester was recently travelling upon a Madrid railway, when a robber managed to board the train and steal her Grace's jewels. In endeavoring to make good his escape, however, the thief fell underneath the wheels of the carriage, and had both his legs crushed. The train was at once stopped, and the jewelry was recovered.



BIRMINGHAM NOTES

(By Our Own Correspondent.)*

It gives me some satisfaction to report even a slight improvement in business, after the extreme depression which characterised the first quarter of the year. April opened very fairly, and for a week or two things looked quite rosy. It was not so much on account of a rather better demand as because there *was* a demand at all. Previously every pound's worth of stuff had to be forced down the buyer's throat, and so, when the slight demand which marked the early days of the month arose, it seemed like the slow, deliberate strokes of an engine recommencing work. However, this fair promise has not been entirely fulfilled, though it has caused a sprightlier feeling in the trade than has prevailed for some time.

Reports from factors' travellers still remain very unsatisfactory, and most houses, wholesale and manufacturing, are still dependent on their orders and jobs.

In consequence of the paucity and smallness of sales, prices are, if anything, a little lower than they were, but most of the staple products are already so low that there is practically no room for further "cutting." Indeed, the slight concessions which are obtainable are always at the expense of the finish. Wages have been forced so low that a minimum appears to have been reached in this direction, and if anything cheaper is required a certain amount of labor has to be left out.

A good instance of this appears in the silver chain trade. At one time silver alberts were as carefully finished as 18ct. ones; to-day, I question if it is possible to buy one that has ever been *finished* at all. The great bulk now sold are made of wire, drawn through such coarse plates that they are scratched and guttered in every direction; the links are closed with a huge gob of solder, and the article is whitened and ready for the market. I grant that good work is not paid for, but it is useless to expect Fashion to side with rubbish of this class. Nor are gold chains by any means finished as they should be, though in this branch there are several good makers who *will* have a proper finish and charge accordingly.

The demand for silver still continues abnormally low, and refiners state that there is, comparatively speaking, no demand for it as compared with gold.

Mr. A. Cotton, whose South African venture has been steadily progressing, has taken the offices at 26, Frederick-street, which were formerly occupied by Mr. S. Warschauer. Competition now is as keen in the various South African towns as in London itself, and shows no prospect of diminution. In Johannesburg alone there are something like 25 or 30 jewelers who are very cute about getting their goods at the bottom prices, without which they say they are unable to do business.

Messrs. Nathan Bros., of 120, Vyse-street, are very appropriate examples of the truth of the final paragraph in last month's Notes. They are now appealing direct to the shopkeeper, and with the well-assorted and saleable patterns which they are able to produce, there is no doubt that they will soon manage to attract a remunerative connection. I constantly hear it argued that a manufacturer cannot make a direct trade with retailers pay, but as a matter of fact such a statement may be easily disproved. I could readily name a dozen firms who once relied entirely on the wholesale trade, and have since gone to the shops successfully. Every manufacturer is naturally the best judge of his own position, and it would be futile to expect a man with a paying connection among wholesalers to give it up in order to deal direct; but it is idle to deny that the thing has been, and is being, done. Moreover, as I stated last month, it is on the increase, and will, I fear, become an additional element of depression to manufacturers who stick religiously to the old methods. I am fully aware of the numerous attempts at direct trading which have brought disaster on the projectors, but I believe that in every instance it will be found that the fault has been with the traders themselves and not with the idea *per se*. If a firm is dying out it is better for them to recognise the inevitable and succumb, rather than attempt to remedy matters by going to the country, since it is a certainty that if goods are not good enough for the factor they won't be good enough for the retailer.

Smallpox has been stalking supreme in Birmingham and some of its suburbs for the last few weeks. The jewelers' quarter has contributed its quota to the list of sufferers. Amongst others, Mr. John Booth, of E. F. Booth and Sons, Vyse-street, has been a victim to the scourge, but at the time of writing I understand that he is making satisfactory progress towards recovery.

Councillor J. Jacobs, J.P., has provided the district with a minor excitement this month. He has consented to stand as the joint Unionist candidate for Northampton at the next General Election. If pertinacity goes for anything he will certainly be elected. It passeth the wit of man to say how long he battled for a seat on the City Council. Time after time he was rejected, and in no uncertain fashion, but he stuck to his guns and was finally successful.

The local trade are considerably indebted to the detectives who so ably scotched the Pitsford-street burglars. It appears that they are connected with a gang which has operated successfully in many of the large towns, and makes the plunder of jewelers a speciality. No doubt the raid upon Messrs. Seal and Revell would have been succeeded by attacks on others in the locality but for the timely action of the police. It is unfortunate that the whole of the gang could not be secured, but it is something to know that they have been "spotted out," and should they venture into the district they will very speedily be taken care of.

During the past winter Birmingham jewelers have been remarkably free from the attentions of the "enterprising burglar," and this is specially satisfactory when we consider that for the greater part of the time the quarter has been without any extraordinary protection. With the advance of the short nights, owners of stocks will feel quite secure again.

The case of C. Dunlop, 62, Great Hampton-street, who was recently fined two sums of £15 or two months' imprisonment for pawning watches belonging to Messrs. E. F. Bauer and F. J. Braham respectively, again directs the attention of the trade to the legal facilities offered to pawnbrokers. In this instance the watches were worn ones in need of repair, and might easily be accepted by a pawnbroker as genuine business; but when we find that out of twenty-seven watches so disposed of, no less than seven went to the same pawnbroker, we begin to realise to what an extent the pawnshop is the enemy of the jeweler. It is a matter of common knowledge in the trade that "appro" parcels of new goods are constantly pawned both by commercial firms and employés. Unfortunately, "the law's delays" are so heartily detested that in the majority of detected cases no action is taken, and so the evil goes on unchecked, and consequently undiminished.

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

Mr. Watherston's recent paper on the subject of "Hall-Marking" has met with approval amongst many local manufacturers, who often suffer considerably through the way in which the Assay people damage the work passing through their hands. Personally, I have always experienced very great courtesy at the hands of the officials, but it cannot be denied that they stick to their preconceived notions with the greatest determination, and it is consequently very difficult to obtain little concessions, however necessary they may be. There is not much to complain of in the present method of assaying *if it is practised with due care*, and it is on this point that I would insist most strongly. The "touch-needle" method might be used as an auxiliary process where specially artistic or delicate goods required marking, but we should not lose sight of the fact that even in the most expert hands the results obtained are only *approximate*, while in a properly conducted parting assay *absolute accuracy* is ensured.

I have just seen a very nice gold presentation key which has been made by Messrs. T. and J. Bragg for the opening of the Antwerp Exhibition. The one side of the handle has a view of Antwerp Cathedral on an enamelled background, and the other bears the arms of the City of Antwerp, in enamel, with supporters in very delicate repoussé work. The shaft is gadrooned, and the effect of the whole is extremely pleasing. Even the Belgian jewelers will be constrained to acknowledge that their English confrères *can* design occasionally.

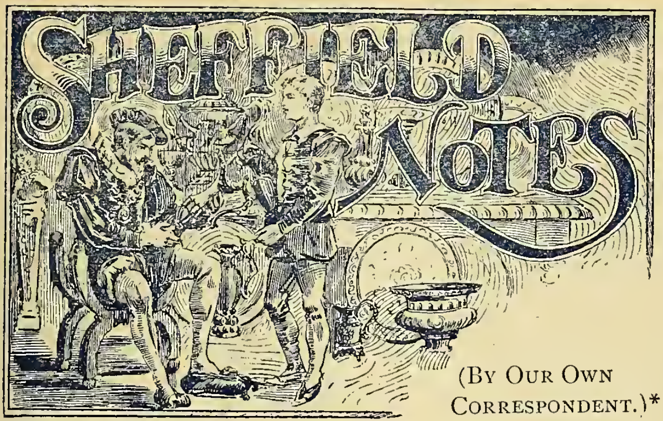
There are some more changes amongst manufacturers' travellers to be noted. Mr. F. Gopsill, the well-known representative of Messrs. Baker and Hinks, has transferred his services to Mr. Adie, of Warstone-lane. He is succeeded by Mr. Arrowsmith, lately with Mr. W. Osborne, Northampton-street. The latter will be shortly represented by Mr. Goode, for many years connected with the firm of Messrs. John Allday and Son, Warstone-lane. I hope the various parties to this little shuffle will all be satisfied with the results.

A collector friend recently showed me a Continental novelty which might find favor here. It was a silver medal in commemoration of a wedding. The obverse represented a Greek wedding ceremony, while the reverse, which was engraved with the names and date to be preserved, bore a graceful allegory—the rising sun depicting the dawn of nuptial bliss, and a delicate arrangement of lilies and other flowers and plants symbolic of purity, love, and masculine strength. The technique displayed was perfect, and the whole formed as near an approach to a poem in silver as can well be imagined. I recommend the idea to some of our artistic die-sinkers, and have little doubt that it would be successful if tastefully executed.

I recently paid a visit to the establishment of Messrs. Wattis, of Lower Temple and Stephenson streets, and was very pleased with what I saw. For French and German clocks they are certainly one of the foremost houses. Indeed, they claim to do many so-called French clocks actually cheaper than they can be done in France, as they import the movements from Paris, and the cases from Belgium, as do the French. American and Vienna Regulators, and an unlimited stock of nickel and wood timesters go to swell up their display. In the Watch Department one finds an excellent stock of both English levers, Swiss and American goods. The Optical Department, as a matter of course, embraces spectacles, opera and field-glasses, microscopes, and articles too numerous to mention, and is kept well posted up in the latest novelties. At the present time I understand that Messrs. Wattis are showing a large variety of entirely new patterns in medium price field and marine glasses of exceptional good value, many of them being special patterns of their own. Altogether the general stock is a very varied one, and although the firm professes to lay themselves out for a legitimate watch, clock, and optical trade, they have found it advisable to keep a stock of the newest things in fancy novelties, which form good side lines for jewelers, and which can be offered as suitable articles for wedding, birthday, and other presents. There is also a special department for electro-plate. I have no hesitation in suggesting to your readers the advisability, when purchasing new stock, of calling at this establishment.

Work of the Birmingham Jeweler.

Under the above heading, J. M. O'Fallow treats the readers of the April number of the *Art Journal* to his version of the story of the Birmingham trade. After going a long way round to get at the commencement of the art in Jewelopolis, and giving an ill-informed detail of processes, he condenses the main facts into the following:—"The bulk of the trade in jewelry is in goods where the display of gold alone is the chief aim of the manufacturer; then the services of the chaser and engraver are most required. The style of design generally is meretricious, although improvement is here and there becoming manifest since the School of Art and technical schools have been giving more earnest attention to the subject. Still, we have not yet, by a long way, outlived the reign of banjoes, fiddles, bats and balls, field-glasses, and horseshoes, which, however realistic, are without any symbolic or spiritual meaning, so characteristic of pre-Christian as well as Early Christian jewelry." (He evidently has not heard of the "lucky" horseshoe.) "The precious stones mounted in Birmingham may not, as a rule, be separately so valuable as those that are mounted in Clerkenwell and the West End of London, but the quality is often quite as good, while the quantity used is very much greater. The lessons taught by the museums and art and technical schools are most difficult to put into practice, because there is no rational conception among the employers of what machinery and mechanical agencies are going to do for them, and for genuine art and happy work and workers. In the realising of a new conception industrial art requires that the designer and the workman shall be one person. Machinery, division of labor, and the capitalist are set against this. The workman cannot, even in wages, benefit by machinery which is the cause of the product of his labor being multiplied a hundredfold. The jobbing jeweler working for himself in the by-street makes as much money as the factory hand who produces by the hundred with every facility for so doing. While the chief object of the manufacturer is to economise labor and yet produce quantities, bad finish and bad design must ensue. 'Well, it sells!' you may hear him say; and he feels, no doubt, virtuously proud of himself, on the way to prosperity, not knowing that it only *seems* to sell, even though he may have received his quarterly, six-monthly, or yearly payments; he can, perhaps, calculate correctly temporary gains, but he never knows how to reason with oversupply, a glutted market, unpaid accounts, bills not met, short time, or no work for his hands; all which things, when not worse, are traceable to his devil-may-care competition and mad desire to become rich at any cost. Natural expression of face or make, or the general personal appearance and dress, are scarcely ever thought of in connection with the wearer of jewelry. What is wanted is more educated beauty of form and detail in a piece of work; a better trained and clearer judgment in the arrangement of its color effect as a whole; such as shall more effectively complement and harmonise with the inner story of our lives, and the circumstances that have us thinking and acting high, and middle, and low class." This is the best part of the article. Much is so incorrect that it is worth neither quoting nor attacking.



(By Our Own Correspondent.)*

Hitherto the idea has seemed to prevail that only the civic authorities were qualified to prosecute in cases of alleged smoke nuisances. Messrs. Walker and Hall, whose magnificent works and show-rooms in Howard-street are visited by every distinguished stranger who comes to Sheffield, have just demonstrated that it is open to any aggrieved ratepayer to set the law in motion. Public action on the part of the authorities has up to now been so ludicrously ineffectual that any additional means of coping with the evil was sure to meet with approval. The chimney to whose performances Messrs. Walker and Hall took exception, belongs to a brewery situated about 100 yards to the south of their own works. It was proved that black smoke in excessive quantities was emitted from this shaft, and constituted a nuisance to the plaintiffs' workpeople and an injury to the silver and electro-plate articles which were being manipulated in the finishing rooms situated in the top storey of that portion of the works fronting on Howard-street. The hearing of the case was of the usual protracted character—experts on both sides contradicting each other in the approved style. Eventually, the stipendiary magistrate made an order to abate the nuisance, and mulcted the defendants in the costs. Messrs. Walker and Hall have attained their object much more speedily and effectually than if they had lodged a complaint with the authorities, and their example is likely to be followed.

The Sheffield Chamber of Arbitration will shortly be in a position to place itself at the service of the public. The governing body, consisting of representatives of the Corporation, the Cutlers' Company, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Federated Trades' Council, has just given the finishing touches to the draft rules previously agreed to, and they will be submitted forthwith to the City Council for adoption. The Town Clerk, who has been appointed to act as registrar, has been instructed to invite from the four bodies above named nominations of gentlemen to act as arbitrators, each body to nominate twenty persons. Persons so nominated must be British subjects, who have been established in Sheffield as manufacturers, bankers, merchants, or otherwise, for at least seven years. Any act of bankruptcy or misdemeanor is to invalidate any appointment. It has been decided that all arbitrations shall be held before one, two, or three arbitrators, as the parties concerned may desire, and that such arbitrators are to be selected from the approved list by the registrar of the Chamber, unless the parties themselves have previously agreed as to a selection.

In connection with the coming of age festivities of Viscount Milton, the watch and clock makers' arts have been brought into requisition. The coming of age really took place a year ago, but the personal part of the festivities has only just been held. In celebration of the event a large sum was subscribed by the tenants on the Fitzwilliam estates, and expended on the manufacture of a clock for the tower of the magnificent new church erected by Earl Fitzwilliam at Wentworth. It is a fine specimen of the horologer's craft, and as it was erected a year ago its capacity has been thoroughly tested. At the same time the peal of bells was removed from the tower of the old church and hung in that of the new. At the recent ceremonial Viscount Milton was also presented with a magnificent gold keyless hunting repeater, supplied by Mr. J. Mason, of Rotherham.

On a sideboard in the dining-hall at Wentworth-Woodhouse, where the company adjourned after the presentation, some magnificent specimens of the silversmith's art were displayed. Conspicuous among them was a large waiter bearing the inscription, "The gift of Queen Victoria to the Earl Fitzwilliam as a token of Her Majesty's sense of the attention shown by the late Earl to her revered father, His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, April, 1838." Three similar pieces were each inscribed, "1838-1888. Presented to Earl and Countess Fitzwilliam on the occasion of their golden wedding by the tenants on their Irish estates, September 10th, 1888." There were numerous racing trophies, including the Doncaster Cup, 1827. One cup from Doncaster was dated 1805, and there were others relating to Pontefract and Richmond. A silver tankard, recently discovered by the Hon. Hugh Fitzwilliam, is worth noting. It bears the Wentworth and Stanley arms, and the date 1668, having belonged to William, second Earl of Strafford.

On the day following these proceedings the numerous colliers in the employ of Earl Fitzwilliam met at Elsecar and presented the offering subscribed for by them a year ago. This took the form of a miniature "curve," mounted in silver, and intended to serve the purposes of an inkstand. A silver inkstand was also given by the family servants, so that on the whole the Fitzwilliam stock of art workmanship will be very considerably increased by the numerous presents given to Viscount Milton.

MAY 11 1894

As one shareholders' meeting after another comes off, and the results of the year's working are disclosed, the disastrous effects of the late coal struggle become more and more apparent. In many cases the dividends declared are merely nominal, and in some not even that. This state of things was bound to have a disastrous effect on the silver trade, as its constituency is made up to a large extent of the dividend-earning class. The present condition of the heavy trades, however, is fairly good, and if the peace can only be kept with the colliers the present year's working will probably show a very different result. The shareholders, however, can only reap the fruits of this twelve months hence, so that in the meantime there is not much prospect of any immediate improvement in the silver trade from this source. Events will probably take their usual course, viz.:—The silver trade being the last to be affected by depression in trade, will also be the last to feel the effects of a revival.

It does not, however, require a man to be a pessimist in order to see that the chances of a revival are remote. So far as Sheffield is concerned, the business at present being done in the rolling mills is traceable to exceptional causes, and has nothing to do with the state of trade in general. Moreover, when a revival does take place, there are influences at work which are prepared to strangle it. So long as the colliers' combinations are masters of the situation there can be no security for trade. A renewal of the struggle of last year is naturally dreaded on all hands, and yet it may prove a blessing in disguise if it paves the way for the supremacy of the law of supply and demand in the economy of trade.

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KEW OBSERVATORY REPORT.

Table showing the performance of the 34 Watches which obtained the highest number of marks during the year.

Watch deposited by	Number of Watch.	Balance spring, escapement, &c.	Mean daily time.					Mean variation of daily rate. + or −	Mean change of rate for 1° F.	Difference between extreme gaining and losing rates.	Marks awarded for			Total Marks. 0—100.
			Pendant up.	Pendant right.	Pendant left.	Dial up.	Dial down.				Daily variation of rate.	Change of rate with change of position.	Temperature compensation.	
Stauffer, Son & Co., London	147625	Single overcoil, g.b., "tourbillon" chronometer	...2·2	...1·8	...2·4	−0·6	...1·3	0·3	0·04	6·2	34·0	36·6	17·4	88·0
L. Rozat, Chaux-de-Fonds	2324	Single overcoil, g.b. ,, ,,	...1·3	...1·2	...1·5	...2·0	...2·4	0·4	0·08	5·7	32·2	38·4	15·0	85·6
J. White & Son, Coventry	33884	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b. centre seconds, lever	...1·4	...0·4	...1·0	...0·5	...3·1	0·5	0·04	6.5	30·5	36·9	17·5	84·9
A. E. Fridlander, Coventry	13684	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	−1·6	−3·2	−1·6	−2·7	...3·0	0·4	0·03	7·2	32·6	33·2	18·2	84·0
J. White & Son, Coventry	34064	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b. centre seconds	−0·9	−0·7	...0·1	...1·2	...1·2	0·4	0·06	6·3	31·2	36·7	16·1	84·0
A. E. Fridlander. Coventry	13847	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b. centre seconds	−2·2	.. 4·7	−1·1	−1·4	...0·8	0·6	0·03	6·7	28·5	36·7	18·0	83·2
E. F. Ashley, London	04248	Single overcoil, s.r., fusee	−2·5	−0·7	...2·4	−0·4	−0·5	0·5	0·03	6·7	29·6	35·6	17·8	83·0
A. E. Fridlander, Coventry	52685	Double overcoil, d.r., g.b.	...3·2	...4·7	...4·8	.. 3·1	...4·1	0·6	0·03	5·2	27·4	37·3	18·3	83·0
J. White & Son, Coventry	34599	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	...0·8	...0·4	...1·8	...2·4	.. 1·2	0·5	0·07	4·7	29·9	37·5	15·5	82·9
J. White & Son, Coventry	34385	Double overcoil, d.r., g.b.	...2·3	...1·4	...3·6	...2·1	...3·6	0·5	0·06	5·2	29·8	36·8	16·0	82·6
Klean & Co., London	62112	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	...0·5	0·0	−1·7	...1·4	−1·0	0·5	0·07	5·3	30·7	36·2	15·3	82·2
Jos. Player, Coventry	18074	Single overcoil, d.r., fusee	...5·1	...5·0	...4·2	...4·3	...4·2	0·6	0·06	6·7	28·0	38·4	15·7	82·1
J. White & Son, Coventry	34340	Single overcoil, d.r., g.b.	...0·9	−2·9	−0·2	−0·4	.. 0·6	0·5	0·06	6·0	30·0	36·0	15·8	81·8
Lancashire Watch Co.	979	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	...1·5	...1·6	−0·8	...1·7	...3·6	0·6	0·03	6·2	27·5	36·2	18·0	81·7
Stauffer, Son & Co., London	124228	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	−0·4	−2·1	−2·9	−0·5	−0·2	0·5	0·06	5·0	29·8	35·8	15·9	81·5
A. E. Fridlander, Coventry	52578	Single overcoil, d.r., g.b., non-magnetic	...3·0	...6·1	...4·9	...1·4	...4·3	0·6	0·01	6·5	27·5	34·4	19·3	81·2
A. E. Fridlander, Coventry	52791	Single overcoil, d.r., g.b.	...2·1	...3·0	...2·2	...4·0	...4·5	0·6	0·04	6·7	27·4	36·4	17·3	81·1
A. E. Fridlander. Coventry	59844	Single overcoil, d.r., g.b., non-magnetic	...3·7	...2·8	−1·0	...4·1	...4·9	0·5	0·05	8·5	30·5	33·6	16·9	81·0
J. White & Son, Coventry	33906	Single overcoil, s.r., fusee	−0·4	...2·2	.. 1·2	...0·9	...0·6	0·5	0·09	6·8	29·3	37·4	14·3	81·0
Usher & Cole, London	26873	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	−0·9	−5·9	−2·4	−0·1	−3·9	0·5	0·03	8·5	30·2	32·7	18·0	80·9
J. White & Son, Coventry	32961	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	...3·7	...3·0	...1·6	...0·1	...2·1	0·5	0·09	8·2	30·6	35·9	14·3	80·8
A. E. Fridlander, Coventry	52794	Single overcoil, d.r., g.b.	−0·3	...2·6	.. 3·0	−1·6	...2·1	0·7	0·02	8·0	26·4	35·6	18·8	80·8
Rotherham & Sons, Coventry	97865	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b., chronograph	−2·0	...1·5	...1·2	...0·8	...0·8	0·7	0·02	7·7	26·5	36·0	18·3	80·8
Rotherham & Sons, Coventry	13421	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	...5·4	...3·1	...3·1	...3·2	...1·8	0·6	0·07	7·2	28·8	36·7	15·3	80·8
P. Cohen, Coventry	109013	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	−3·2	−3·0	−0·0	−4·3	...0·2	0·6	0·01	7·2	28·0	33·1	19·7	80·8
Usher & Cole, London	27754	Single overcoil, s.r., fusee	...0·5	.. 3·0	...3·2	−0·9	...0·6	0·5	0·05	7·7	29·6	34·2	16·9	80·7
Rotherham & Sons, Coventry	94692	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.,	...1·2	.. 0·4	−0·6	...2·7	...3·0	0·7	0·02	6·0	26·4	35·2	18·9	80·5
Little & Co., London	2250	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	...2·9	...6·2	...4·0	...4·0	...4·4	0·6	0·05	7·5	27·2	36·8	16·4	80·4
J. White & Son, Coventry	33447	Single overcoil, d.r., g.b.	...0·7	−1·0	−0·7	...0·7	...1·7	0·4	0·12	7·2	31·6	36·4	12·3	80·3
H. Golay, London...	2087	Double overcoil, d.r., g.b., minute repeater and minute chronograph	...0·8	−0·8	−0·2	...1·2	−0·2	0·8	0·03	8·0	24·9	37·3	18·1	80·3
Rotherham & Sons, Coventry	95453	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	...0·4	...0·1	−0·7	−1·3	−0·6	0·7	0·05	7·5	26·2	37·8	16·3	80·3
Rotherham & Sons, Coventry	13414	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b.	...0·8	...0·1	−2·1	...0·1	...0·2	0·6	0·07	5·5	27·8	36·9	15·5	80·2
Pearson & Son. Coventry	71164	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b., centre seconds	...0·1	.. 2·4	−0·3	−3·2	−0·2	0·7	0·02	9·0	26·1	35·2	18·9	80·2
Rotherham & Sons, Coventry	97867	Single overcoil, s.r., g.b, chronograph	...2·7	...1·6	−1·4	...1·3	...1·8	0·6	0·06	5·7	28·6	35·8	15·7	80·1

In the above List, the following abbreviations are used, viz.:—s.r. for single-roller; d.r. for double-roller; g.b. for going barrel; ... for gaining rate; — for losing rate.

KEW OBSERVATORY REPORT *(continued)*.

Table showing the Highest Marks obtained by Complicated Watches during the year.

Description of Watch.	Number.	Received from	Marks awarded for			Total marks, 0—100.
			Variation.	Position	Temperature.	
Minute and seconds chronograph and minute repeater	2087	H. Golay, London...	24·9	37·3	18·1	80·3
,, ,, ,, ,,	4212	,, ,, ...	26·5	35·6	15·6	77·7
Minute and split seconds chronograph	74510	R. Roskell, Liverpool & London..	25·7	35·8	16·5	78·0
,, ,, ,, ...	74522	,, ,, ,, ...	28·6	27·4	15·1	71·1
,, ,, ,, ...	101—1892	S. Smith & Son, London	22·9	30·1	17·4	70·4
Minute and seconds chronograph	147472	Stauffer, Son & Co., London ...	26·1	34·4	18·9	79.4
,, ,, ,, ...	13193	D. A. Nicole & Co., London ...	27·3	32·4	18·1	77.8
,, ,, ,, ...	2085	Weill & Co., London	26·6	35·3	12·0	73·9
Ordinary seconds chronograph	97865	Rotherham & Sons, Coventry ...	26·5	36·0	18·3	80·8
,, ,, ,, ...	97867	,, ,, ,, ...	28·6	35·8	15·7	80·1
,, ,, ,, ...	92488	,, ,, ,, ...	23·5	37·8	15·7	77·0
Minute repeater	31946	Clémence Frères, London ...	24·8	38·0	13·4	76·2
,, ,, ...	2073	H. Golay, London	25·7	36·8	12·0	74·5
,, ,, and clock-watch...	52851	A. E. Fridlander, Coventry ...	25·1	32·4	15·3	72·8
"Non-magnetic" watches	52578	,, ,, ...	27·5	34·4	19·3	81·2
,, ,, ...	52844	,, ,, ..	30·5	33·6	16·9	81·0
,, ,, ...	13131	S. Smith & Son, London ...	23·1	34·3	19·0	76·4
,, ,, ...	13405	Rotherham & Sons, Coventry ...	27·2	33·1	16·0	76·3

KEW OBSERVATORY REPORT.

Table of the Performance of 14 Chronometers on Trial for the Italian Government, whose rate did not exceed 38 secs., from June 1 to December 21, 1893.

Name of maker.	Number of chronometer.	Whether 2-day or 8-day.	Description of balance &c.	Least weekly sum.	Mean temperature for that week.	Greatest weekly sum.	Mean temperature for that week.	Difference between the greatest and least. (a.)	Greatest difference between one week and the next. (b.)	Mean temperatures for these two weeks.	Trial No. a + 2b.
				secs.		secs.		secs.	secs.		secs.
V. Kullberg, London ...	5352	2	Auxiliary to balance ; reversed detent ...	— 7·9	47·1	— 0·9	80·2	7·0	2·4	47·3—45·4	11·8
J. E. A. Uhrig, ,, ...	587	2	Continually acting auxiliary	— 1·8	71·8	... 8·3	81·8	10·1	2·2	67·1—63·7	14·5
J. E. A. Uhrig, ,, ...	601	2	,, ,, ,, ...	— 6·2	63·6	... 7·9	85·7	14·1	4·3	80·2—47·3	22·7
A. W. Webb, ,, ...	5657	2	Ordinary balance	- 22·2	71·8	— 6·3	48·2	15·9	3·9	85·7—80·2	23·7
A. W. Webb, ,, ...	5656	2	,, ,, ...	—10·9	69·0	... 6·9	44·5	17·8	4·0	92·5—96·9	25·8
D. Buckney, ,, ...	5635	2	Auxiliary to balance	— 7·6	96·9	... 6·1	57·5	13·7	7·3	81·8—92·2	28·3
V. Kullberg, ,, ...	5396	2	,, ,, reversed detent ...	16·1	47·1	— 4·0	92·5 81·8	12·1	8·6	57·5—81·8	29·3
Kendal & Dent, ,, ...	5651	2	Ordinary balance	—11·4	45·4	... 3·5	80·2	14·9	7·4	80·2 -47·3	29·7
M. Klean & Co. ,, ...	1005 2	2	Auxiliary to balance	—14·9	63·9	... 2·4	73·4	17·3	7·5	75·0—64·7	32·3
Kendal & Dent, ,, ...	8108	8	,, ,, acting in extremes...	... 0·9	63·6	.. 21·4	45·4	20·5	6·5	96·9 84.6	33·5
V. Kullberg, ,, ...	5320	2	Auxiliary to balance ; reversed detent ...	— 9·6	96·9	... 8.6	80·2	18·2	8·2	96·9—84.6	34·6
H. P. Isaac, ,, ...	1920 2	2	,, ,, bright spring ...	—16·3	45·4 45·3	... 2·1	81·8	18·4	8·7	80·2—47·3	35·8
Kendal & Dent, ,, ...	6587	2	,, ,, acting in extremes...	... 4·3	65·0	... 20·6	92·2 85·7	16·3	9·9	66·1—85·4	36·1
H. P. Isaac, ,, ...	1772	2	Auxiliary to balance, bright spring ...	— 3·8	96·9	...18·2	45·6	22·0	7·5	80·2—47·3	37·0

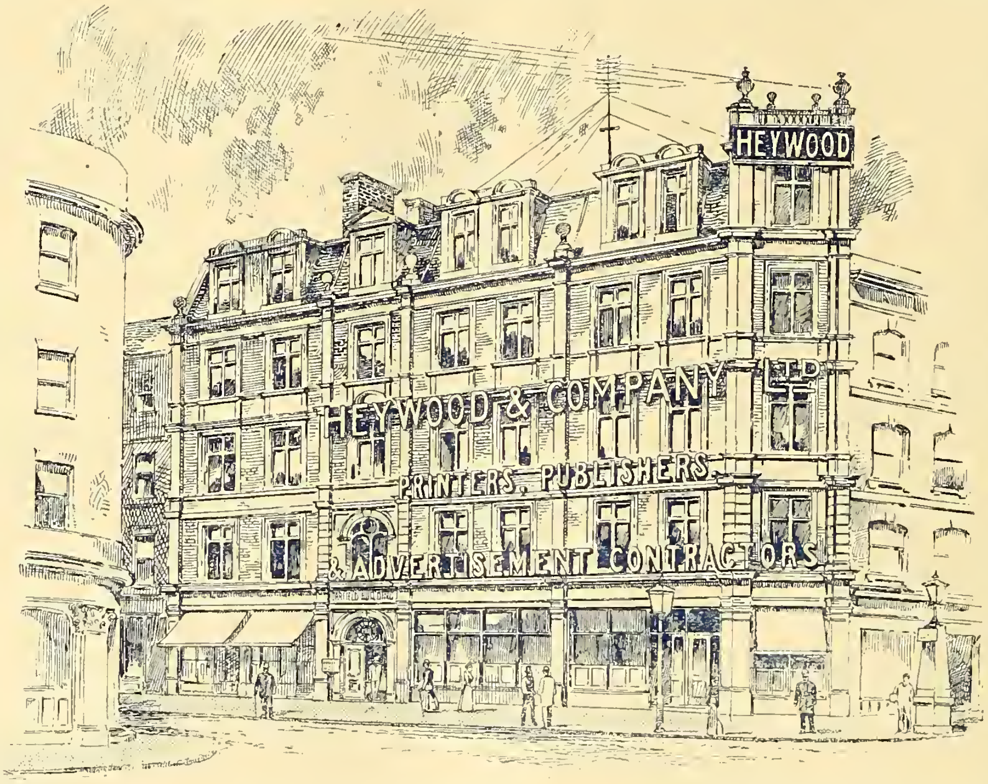
30 Movements were sent in for this trial. For comments upon the above tables, see first page.

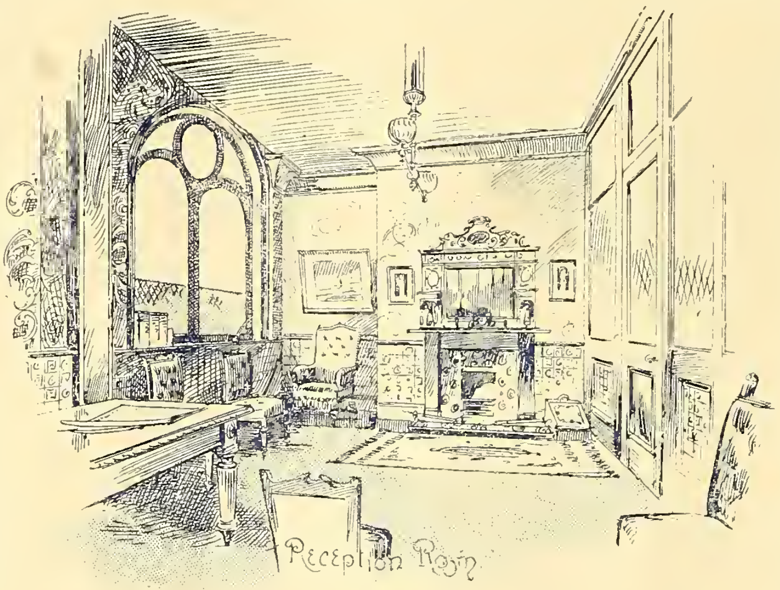
Fusee v. Gong Barrel.—A correspondence has recently been going on in our respected contemporary, the *English Mechanic*, on the above subject, in which the latter gets by far the best of it. If figures and timekeeping can prove anything, they certainly claim an all-round preference for the simpler mechanism. In a correspondence in the same journal on "English and Foreign Watches," some wonderful performances of a watch by H. Gorlay were taken as a standard. Our cheap work appears to find no champion in price for price. Still, one correspondent stated that he sent many English watches out to America where, despite tariff and 7s. 6d. freight, they were preferred to the Americans,

Nickel-Plated Electromagnetic Instruments.—It should always be remembered that nickel is a magnetic mineral, and therefore should not be employed even as a plating in any instrument where this quality is likely to interfere with accuracy. In the current number of the *Zeitschrift fur Instrumentenkunde*, Dr. A. Ebeling, of the Physikalische-Technische Reichsanstalt, calls attention to the danger of nickel plating delicate electromagnetic instruments. A case recently came under his notice in which a deflection of 8deg. could be produced by rotation of the case of an instrument parallel to the needle which was magnetised. He finds that plating, even when so thin as to be quite transparent, has a very marked magnetic effect.

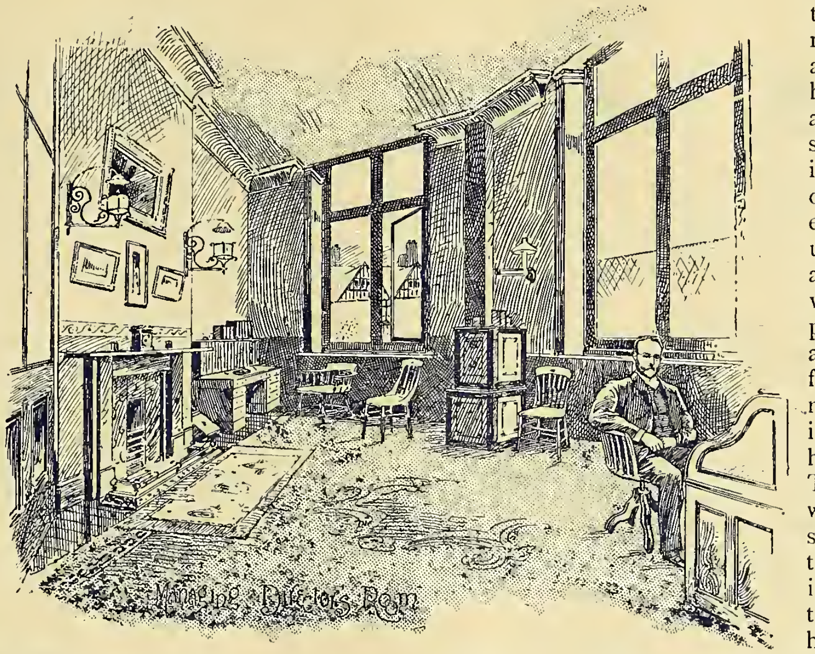
NEW HOME OF THE "W., J., & S."

We hope it is pretty well known now among the trade (or, if not, the fault is not ours) that the chief offices in London of the Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Silversmith have been moved to 150, Holborn, E.C. The reason has been stated before, but may be repeated without disadvantage, and is that the late offices had grown so inadequate for our requirements that the staff were in daily danger of being squeezed through the walls into the street, without the advantage of being comfortably dematerialised for the process, as a well-known dame was, when the spirits, on a noteworthy occasion, took her through fourteen inches of brick and mortar. There was plenty of room for all, and to spare, at 68, Fleet-street, a couple of years ago; but a couple of months since to swing a cat round at any point would have brought fur into contact with a number of busy heads. The new premises are not only very extensive, but we venture to think that, in all respects, they are a worthy home of this journal. Here is a sketch of the exterior. It is a lofty and handsome structure, at the corner of Gray's Inn-road, at that point of Holborn known as the Bars, the veritable representatives of the old "bars" themselves, in the shape of a pair of obelisks, standing flush with the front, and are conspicuous objects from almost any point of view along High Holborn for a considerable distance beyond Chancery-lane. A 'bus passenger from Oxford-street way would be unable to withdraw his fascinated gaze from our new abiding-place for a distance of several hundred yards. The publishers, who believe both in giving and getting publicity, have secured themselves all the bold advertisement that three-foot letters, heavily gilt, can afford; and the great sign at the top corner, with the single word "Heywood" on its face, is an exceedingly conspicuous object. We go into these details so that no friend of this journal visiting us — and hereby is extended a cordial invitation to all and sundry — shall have any excuse for not easily finding us, and for wandering about High Holborn or Holborn-viaduct on a puzzled search for what, if he were blind, crippled, and moving backwards, he would still hardly fail to readily fall in with. The fine entrance-door stands a few steps down Gray's Inn-road. A broad, well-lighted staircase leads to the first floor, where the publishing offices and the general offices, with separate lobbies and counters, are found. The general offices are entered by heavy mahogany swing-doors, fitted with handsome mulled cathedral glass windows, with the letters constituting the name of the firm curiously worked in amongst the irregular panes and gilded leads. Inside is a roomy lobby, with counter. The reception room adjoins, and is, as the illustration shows, a pretty apartment, decorated with lincrusta, rich colorings and other appointments to harmonise. The counting-house is spacious and lofty, with a row of desks, lighted by pedestal Schultz lamps, and contains accommodation for about twenty clerks and typists. The board-room and the managing director's, the secretary's, and other offices, are on the same floor. The editorial department, on the next floor, is reached by a spiral staircase and consists of a suite of half-a-dozen light, airy rooms. Then there is the publishing department, lined with shelves for stock and well arranged for rapid banding and despatch of copies; the artists' department and block store-room, and the library, well stocked with technical works and books of



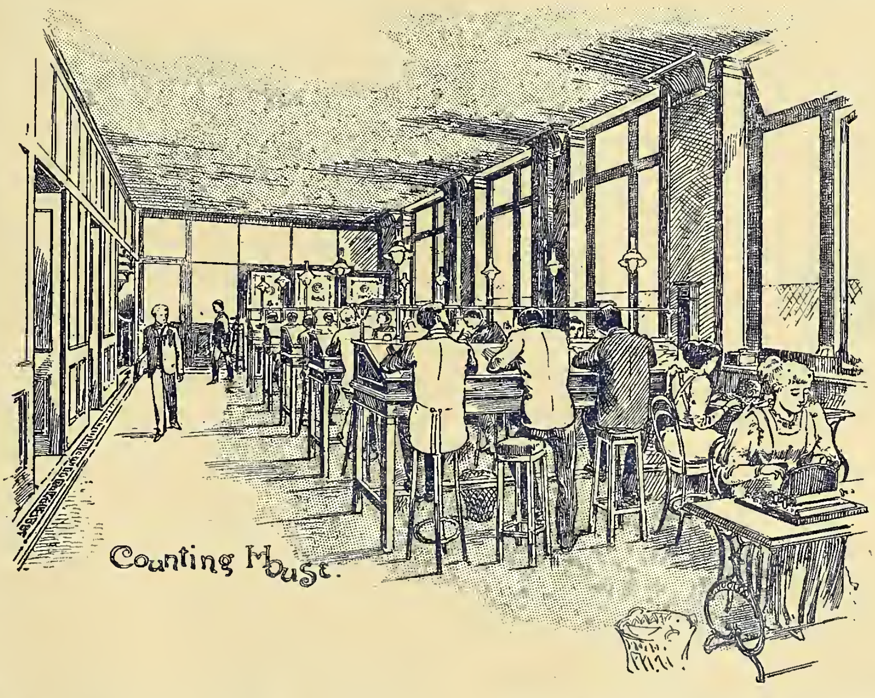


reference. A new and beautiful figured rolled glass of delicate green tint is used throughout with excellent effect. The whole of the fittings have been supplied and the decorations carried out by our near neighbors, Messrs. Samuel Yardley and Sons, of 18, Gray's Inn-road, the well-known shopfitters; and our experience of their careful attention, tasteful and conscientious workmanship, and reasonable charges, warrants us in recommending them highly to all members of the trade requiring their places of business fitted in effective and serviceable style. In selecting a site for new offices we were greatly influenced by the desire of not only securing a main and imposing position, easy of access from all the principal railways, but also to get as near as possible to the centre of the wholesale trade quarter. Our new offices being only a few minutes' walk from Clerkenwell, and only a few hundred yards from Hatton-garden, Holborn-viaduct, Thavies Inn, and Bartlett's-buildings. We trust this attempt on our part to place ourselves within easy call of our clients will be made ample use of by them, and prove a mutual benefit to us all. The account we have given of our new abode will, we trust, serve a double purpose: it will induce some of our friends to take the energetic step of paying us a visit, and it will also convince them that, while the journal impresses on others the advantage to be derived from publicity, it has no intention of allowing its own lights to be hidden under a bushel! The excellent sketches which adorn this "descriptive article" attest to the truth of the reading-matter, and we trust that we shall always adhere to the same strict measure of veracity, when we describe the doings and the scenes of operation of our manufacturing friends.



A Beautiful Casket for Southport.

The Mayor of Southport was recently presented with a very finely executed silver casket containing an address. The elaborate receptacle is of hall-marked silver, executed in the pure Italian Renaissance style. The body is formed of six panels. In the centre of the front panel is enamelled in true heraldic colors the arms and motto of the Borough of Southport. On the opposite side, at the back, is a shield bearing the date, 1894. The panels are supported on either side by municipal emblems, and the civic mace. The body is further supported by a bold artistically formed moulding and pedestal, decorated with laurel leaves. The lid assumes the form of bold graceful curves, and on either side are panels bearing the emblems of Peace and Commerce, and a fitting allusion to the recipient. On the lower mould of the lid are exquisitely modelled shells indicative of locality. The whole is surmounted by an enwreathed shield bearing the motto, crest, and monogram of the recipient (in translucent enamel). The corners of the casket are supported by gracefully modelled dolphins, which give the work an artistic elegancy. The plinth is of solid ebony and blue velvet. The upper member carries an ornamental band of silver with inscription. The above was excellently carried out by G. W. Harvey and Co Frederick-street, Birmingham.


Counting House.

Safe Bind, etc.—We have given practical proof of our high opinion of Messrs. Whitfield's safes by ordering, from Birmingham, a large one for our new premises, 150, Holborn, E.C. The safe is a very solid article, standing five feet high on its own bottom, and weighing close on a ton. The body is made of best boiler-plate, put together with strong angle iron and strengthened with massive outside bands. The door is fitted with strong bolts thrown back and front and top and bottom into the rebate bars of the safe, and secured with Whitfield's eight lever solid block lock. Altogether we are well satisfied that this fine safe will realise Messrs. Frederick Whitfield and Co.'s motto, "Fast bind; fast find," and will not fail should thief or fire seek to play us tricks.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

To the Editor of the WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, SILVERSMITH, AND OPTICIAN.

Patent Law in Denmark.

DEAR SIR,—It will no doubt interest a number of your readers to be informed that on the 28th ult. a new Patent Law for Denmark passed both Chambers of the Legislature, and it is expected will be signed by the King in the course of a few days. The principal features are the same as the laws of Germany, Norway, and Sweden, viz. :—Protection from date of filing application ; duration of patent 15 years ; importation of patented articles prohibited ; examination as to novelty prior to the grant ; opposition to grant by interested party permitted. The new law is to come into operation about the middle of June, and we think it would be well for anyone contemplating patenting an invention in Denmark to wait until then before having an application for Letters Patent filed, and thus obtain the advantages of the new law. — Yours truly, W. P. THOMPSON AND CO., Patent Agents, 6, Bank-street, Manchester, April 2nd, 1894.

Stocktaking and the Income Tax.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to "Stocktaking," I may say that I was in the same plight with respect to being overcharged, year by year, by the Income-tax assessors. I also did not take stock, but finding, like your correspondent, that I had little chance of fair play unless I did so, I saw the error of my former way, took stock, and got my Income-tax reduced. The value of my stock at cost price is about £900. Everything is entered in my stock-book under the various headings—watches, clocks, jewelry, electro-plate, optics, and fancy goods. By being very systematic and careful in booking, after a little experience stock-taking is got through with comparative ease and no hindrance to one's regular business. One day we take all the goods in a certain glass case. When that is finished we begin with another some other day. The whole thing is done in less than a fortnight, without there being any sign by which the outside public could tell that we are stock-taking. We always mark the cost price of our goods with a private mark. Trifling things which cannot well be all entered singly, we simply estimate and put down what we believe to be a fair valuation. By keeping proper balance-sheets, I can now tell in five minutes what my business has yielded me in any single year for the last ten years.

Y. S.

Trade Apprenticeships.

SIR,—Perhaps my experience may help "Anti-Technical Education." There seems to be no difficulty in my neighborhood in obtaining apprentices, but I doubt whether the parents would in any case pay any premium. We take an apprentice for seven years, and have him legally bound. He also has to pay for anything he breaks or loses. He is taught in all the branches of the business of repairing watches, clocks, and jewelry. The first year he receives 2s. 6d. per week, rising each year, till the seventh, when he gets 10s. per week. Such a man, if he has given due attention to his trade, having got his indentures, is always certain of a good situation. I refuse to engage any man who has not served an apprenticeship, and cannot supply first-class references. If watchmakers would be firm on this point, we should have fewer bad workmen. Regular work can always be obtained by competent men.

JEWELER.

Answers Wanted.

SIR,—Would you kindly enlighten me on the following points :—

1. What necessary precautions ought to be taken by a valuer of gold and silver articles ?

2. Would it in any way be disparaging to the trade to advertise oneself as valuer in the following form : "Watches examined and valued for the small sum of —— ?"

3. Is there a work published on "The Testing of Diamonds," not exceeding 3s. or 4s. ?

I shall feel greatly obliged for the information.

GUITEAU.

1. The first precaution which we recognise for this operation is to obtain competency. As to method, we should say never value things at a higher price than you would care to give, or at less, plus a fair profit, than you would care to sell them at.

2. This is entirely a matter of opinion, but as the present wording contravenes what we regard as a business principle, we would rather say "at a small charge."

3. No. Not only not at that price but at any other. References are made to the subject in all books and journals treating on gems, many of which are useless. After one of our lectures a gentleman came up to the table and said he did not want to know about the shape of crystals, their action on light, or their physical properties ; he wanted something *practical*, he wanted to be able to tell any gem when he saw it, and how much it was worth ! ! !—ED.

The Clockmakers' Company.

IF the power at present enjoyed and exercised by this ancient and honorable company is limited, it cannot be denied that it does an immense amount of good for the trade, and it would do much more if it were as rich as some of the other companies. Considering that its liverymen are largely drawn from the trade, anything connected with the company is, or ought to be, of interest to our readers. On the 17th ult., there was a Livery dinner, held at the Albion, under that distinguished amateur horologist, the Rev. H. L. Nelthropp (the Master). The company included :—

Mr. G. W. Atkins, Mr. J. W. Abbott, Mr. H. Abbott, Lieutenant Hicks, R.N., Mr. W. D. Cronin, Mr. H. Wilson, Mr. W. Barnsale, Mr. W. B. Maskell, Mr. T. Buckney, Mr. F. B. Adams, Mr. J. S. Adams, Mr. P. Woodman, Mr. J. Woodman, Mr. H. Ellis, Mr. C. E. Atkins (junior warden), C. Woolley, Mr. H. Pemberton Leach, Mr. H. Potter, Mr. R. H. Halford, Mr. E. J. Thompson (senior warden), Mr. W. R. Cole, Mr. W. Lawley, Mr. T. L. Hands, Mr. J. J. Hicks, Mr. T. S. Lewis, Mr. J. Syme, Mr. L. Donne, Mr. J. A. Clémence, Mr. R. C. Suggett, Mr. J. Breese, Captain Cowton, Mr. D. Clarke, Mr. J. W. Carter, Mr. H. W. Gaydon, Mr. H. Clarke, Mr. W. H. Sainsbury Gilbert, Mr. C. Welch, and the Clerk of the Company (Mr. H. C. Overall).

The toast list was a brief one, and the speeches, thanks to the example of the Master, were equally brief. Lieutenant Hicks, R.N., and Captain Cowton replied for the patriotic toast, the former, in the course of an excellent speech, endeavored to establish a connection between the company and the Navy by pointing to the fact that we owed to the clockmaker the introduction of the chronometer, by means of which he and some of his naval colleagues had the honor of "picking up" the 1869 cable. Mr. Warden Thompson, a gentleman who can look back to seventy years' experience of the Corporation, and who reminded the company of some of that body's admirable works in the past, proposed "The Lord Mayor and Corporation" in a forcible speech, and Mr. Baddeley, who responded, assured the company that the Library Committee were proud of having charge of the company's library and collection of watches and watch and clock work. The Master proposed "The Health of the Visitors," which was responded to by Mr. Howard Potter, an American citizen, who thought that Londoners scored an advantage over his fellow citizens by the fact that they could date their public feasts back much later than could any other country. The junior member of the Livery (Mr. Cronin) proposed "The Past Master," for whom Mr. Thompson (the senior Past Master present), responded in a few appreciative sentences. The remaining toasts were "The Wardens," proposed by the Master, and acknowledged by Mr. Warden C. Atkins ; "The Livery," also proposed by the Master, who pointed out that the Livery of this guild could not, at all events, complain that they were not in touch with the guild, and acknowledged by Mr. Gilbert ; and "The Clerk," Mr. Overall replying in a few well-chosen sentences. The speeches were interspersed with some capital songs by a variety of talented artists.

V. A. Litkie has dissolved his partnership in the firm of Mosenthal, Sons, and Co., and is now trading at 26, Holborn-viaduct, under the style of V. Litkie and Co.

A Fire broke out in the small hours of the morning of the 8th ult., at the lock-up shop of M. W. Skelton, jeweler, Park-place, Toxteth-street, Liverpool. The greater part of the stock was destroyed.

The Greenwich time by wire has only just been adopted at Aberdeen, the first to take advantage of it being A. J. and J. Smith, 191, Union-street. It marks a new feature of interest in their establishment, which, since the alterations, measures 80 feet in length.

St. John's Church, Ingrow, Yorks, is now the possessor of a four-dialled quarter chimer, made by Messrs. Potts and Sons, Leeds, which was recently set chiming, attended by great ceremony, in which a Bishop took part. The chairman of the fund committee was a Wesleyan.

Diamond Field Notes.

(By Vaalite.)

Kimberley, March 31st, 1894.

I do not remember having a much worse state of things to report in connection with the great De Beers than at the present time. No doubt the long-headed policy of its great director, Cecil Rhodes, was a very far-seeing one; but diamonds, like every other commercial commodity, will always be subject to the laws of supply and demand. Over-development of material, therefore, is equivalent to curtailing demand, as price is always the correlative of these two great factors. At the present moment they have no less than about £4,000,000 worth of blue on the floors. To extract more from the mines would not only be useless, but would have a bad effect upon the market, and inasmuch as the world's demand, at any rate at present prices, is only just about equal to the De Beers output; it follows that if the mines are worked further, and more diamonds put upon the market, the price of the precious gem must go down. It has, therefore, been decided to retrench in many ways, and no less than 200 white employés have been discharged, a procedure which, of course, was unexpected, and is one which has given a great amount of displeasure. Still, what else should be done under the circumstances? It is freely admitted here that the supply is greater than the demand, and when one sees constant reduction in handling, the enormous accumulated wealth of the De Beers, and the handsome dividends, one is beginning to ask whether some reduction in price ought not to be made. The fact is, despite the bad times and the slow sale, outside buyers are just as eager to purchase as the company is to sell; but still it is only the keeping up of this policy of independence that stimulates the outsiders to become anxious to get hold of the stuff, even at prices which will find but slow sale and small profit. If only a little combination can be effected outside, I am certain prices must come down. The present so-called "outside" ring is not an outside combine at all. It is an effort of the Barnatos to adopt a policy which should be as efficacious outside as that of Cecil Rhodes has been inside. There are many who have regarded this move with suspicion from the commencement, and the present prospect of things does not appear to induce them to alter their opinion. There is also a rumour out here that the great General is fully aware of the large quantities of diamonds in Australia, and that should sufficient capital be put into the development of these river deposits, they will form formidable competitors for the world's supply. Possibly this is about the facts of the case, but it has grown to something more than this in the "they say," it being asserted that the Australian supplies have already made themselves felt upon the diamond market. Of this, Mr. Editor, you would be better able to judge than anyone out here, but I do not think it has reached this state yet; although, after reading what you have said about them for so long, I believe they have a future before them. The conversion of the 5½ per cent. debentures is now practically a settled thing; and I hear that a large portion of the new 4½ are already underwritten. Of course, this is not to be wondered at when everything is borne in mind, as the De Beers assets embrace the greater part of the farms within forty miles of Kimberley, and are worth, certainly, £15,000,000.

Another example of the retrenchment of the De Beers is exemplified in the manner they have been utilising their own water, which has had a very great effect upon the balance-sheet of the Kimberley Water Works, just published The combine mean, however, to keep themselves before the public, and are preparing for a good show at Antwerp. The giant Zulus, which were sent to Chicago, have been sent amongst other stuff to be exhibited.

The discharged whites are proceeding to penetrate further up country, and every facility is being offered for them to do so. In many places I heard of successful discoveries of alluvial gold: around Tati the natives gather it, and bring it in and exchange it for limbo, brass wire, and beads. In Bulawayo, on the Tokivi, I heard there are very promising alluvial workings. The trade of the Cape thus tends to spread and multiply, which, from a commercial point of view, is much better, as, if all the eggs were in the charmed basket, and that one receptacle got a hole knocked in its bottom, a collapse would ensue. The industries of the Cape are ever increasing, and the colony is worth the attention of any of your wholesale or shipping houses. The gold of the Rand still continues to increase in output, February having turned the 150,000oz., with nearly 2,000oz. to spare, and everywhere gold prospects are increasing.

There has been a very nasty disturbance at Wesselton. Someone has made the black boys discontented, and made them believe that they were being badly used in the compound, and accordingly they all agreed, and threatened to strike on a given day. Preparations were, therefore, made, and when the strike came, although the darkies were armed, they were unable to get the best of it; for, although they were too many for the guards who tried to disarm them, upon the arrival of the mounted police, who were outside ready, several were shot down, and a large number taken prisoners. The trial has lasted six days, and no doubt a Government inquiry will follow. Of course there is always someone willing to take the opposite side, and there are many who are trying to make a great deal out of it.

Work is progressing at Koffyfontein; 1,994 loads of yellow were hauled, 14,874 loads washed, yielding 876 carats of the precious sparklers. At the New Jagersfontein, I hear, new machinery is still being put up which will make a further reduction in the cost of handling the material, and let us hope that with the reduction of cost we may get a reduction of prices. The ground at Lippiatt's extension on the other side of the road at Du Toits Pan is being opened up and looks very promising. There is now no doubt that the main street absolutely passes through the mine. I understand that it is proposed to re-construct the N.E. Bultfontein with £200,000 capital.

Sale of Old Silver.—Recently, at a sale of old silver, numerous articles of the Queen Anne period, some of which were rather heavy, brought £2 an ounce. Three oblong caddies, chased by D. R. Sharp, 1762, weighing 40oz., brought £80.

Leblanc's Jewels.—These jewels, recently sold, realised prices which hardly indicate a want of money in the trade, or bad times. A large pair of diamond earrings, containing two large rectangular brilliants, was sold at 15,850fr. Two brooches, composed of large white pearls, surrounded by ten brilliants, brought 9,055fr. One of the largest jewelry houses in Paris purchased for 22,605fr. a large brilliant set in a gold ring. The principal competition amongst the bidders was for a collar of seventy-five white pearls and sapphires. After very spirited bidding this was bought by an English purchaser for 45,800fr.

Turning a Well-known Business into a Company.—The old business of T. R. Russell has been registered under the name of Russells, Limited, with a capital of £50,000 in £10 shares (4,000 ordinary and 1,000 preference), to acquire the business of watch, clock, and chronometer maker, manufacturing jeweler, silversmith, and diamond merchant, carried on at Liverpool, Manchester, Llandudno, and Warrington, by T. R. Russell, and to continue this undertaking. The first directors are T. R. Russell, J. Sloan, and T. H. Green; qualification of the former as chairman, £1,000.

The Evan Roberts' Watch Collection.—We hear that the celebrated Evan Roberts' Watch collection, despite all its former wonders, has been increased, and now forms an attractive display in one of the lower rooms of the Western Park Museum. The collection now numbers about 500 watches, including examples in gold and silver repoussé, tortoise-shell, enamel, and various other materials, all selected for their rarity, associations, and peculiarities of construction. It includes many unique specimens, not only of principles, but of age; and some have been owned by the most important historic personages for the last three hundred years. If any of our readers want to know how many adjectives there are in the English language, we should advise them to read Cousin Jonathan's description of this most marvellous exhibit on earth.

The Silver Trade Pension Society.

As we were going to press with our last issue, the fifty-eighth annual meeting of the members of the above excellent Society was being held at the Town Hall, Gray's Inn-road, Mr. J. M. Garrard, the president of the Society, in the chair. The meeting was well attended, and of the twelve candidates for pensions the following were successful :—Mr. Searle, 2,674 votes ; Mr. Adams, 2,515 ; Mrs. Wilmot, 1,747 ; Mrs. Mills, 1,695 ; and Mrs. Loveday, 1,619. This brings up the number of the annuitants to sixty-five, which, we are pleased to notice, is high-water mark, so that, notwithstanding the general depression, the gallant Society has been able to hold its own. According to the secretary's report, the statement of accounts showed that the total income of the Society, from all sources, during the year, was £1,429 11s. 6d. There was paid to the pensioners the sum of £907 6s. 8d. ; and the cash in bank and in the collectors' hands amounted to £412 19s. 8d. The report further called attention to the shop-collectors, without whose valuable aid a large portion of the subscriptions of the workers in the trade would be lost.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts, said that in the present depressed condition of trade he thought they had reason to congratulate themselves that the state of their funds enabled them to do what they had done that evening. Still it would be a greater gratification if they had had a more successful report on the year's working to make to the members, but the committee hoped that next year would show an increase in the revenue and a general improvement all round. It was, perhaps, too early to count on such an increase—technically speaking, to reckon their chickens before they were hatched—but he for one hoped, if he lived to meet them on another occasion, to be able to announce a considerable increase in the annual subscriptions. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. McNullan proposed, and Mr. W. Dear seconded, "That the best thanks of the subscribers be tendered to J. M. Garrard, Esq., for his invaluable services as President, and to ask him to accept the office again for the ensuing year," pointing out the well-known qualities and qualifications of their President, alluding to him as a gentleman who felt quite at home amongst the working men of his own trade. (Hear, hear.)

To this Mr. Garrard replied with thanks. He was sure that those who were present—with many of whom he had worked for forty years—would endorse what he said, when he told them that he took a deep interest in the welfare of every man connected with the trade. He could assure them that he would do in the future, as he had in the past, all that lay in his power to promote the success of the Society during the ensuing year. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. J. Rowles proposed, and Mr. J. Jarvis seconded, that Mr. Jas. Slater (Holland, Alwinckle, and Slater) be re-elected as treasurer.

Mr. C. Deere proposed, and Mr. P. H. Deere seconded, that Mr. Henry Pearson be re-elected honorary secretary to the Society.

The latter, in returning thanks, paid a high compliment to the permanent secretary, Mr. Newton, and pointed out that there was a slight advance in the revenue of the Society during the past year, and he considered, in the face of the great depression existing in commercial circles, this augured well for the vitality of the association. Under the will of the late Mr. Swinson they had been left the reversionary interest in the sum of £4,000. The money was invested in Brazilian railway stock, but the committee would approach the trustees to see if they had the power to tranfer the investment to security more acceptable to English ideas. As long as they were pleased to associate him with their Society he would devote what influence he possessed and time he could spare to the promotion of that deserving and worthy institution. (Hear, hear.)

On the motion of Mr. D. Round, seconded by Mr. C. Welch, Mr. R. Dubock, Mr. E. Dimes, and Mr. H. Foskett were unanimously re-elected auditors for the ensuing year.—Mr. Grant suggested that the rules should be made more elastic, so that aged and infirm members could become entitled to the benefits of the Society before their earnings fell to 18s. per week.—The Chairman assured Mr. Grant that his suggestion would receive the careful consideration of the committee.—The following gentlemen were elected a committee for the ensuing year :—Messrs. R. Goater, J. Jarvis, J. Ludford, G. Pearham, W. R. Taylor, and J. R. Ward.

The usual vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the meeting.

MARKETS.

Diamonds.

London, April 28th, 1894.—During the month the diamond trade has been in close response to the state of things in the jewelry trade. Parcels of rough have changed hands fairly freely, although not so much so as is often the case, and when bought they have been more as a speculation and an absolute desire or determination to force business, or to be ready for any improvement, than to meet absolute demands. Several times during the month there have been rumors that have influenced purchasers for a day or two, but in these days of bustle and drive how soon things are forgotten ! It is certain, however, that despite the anxiety of the trade to do business, the supply of rough is in every way equal to the demand, and it is only the limiting of the supply by the De Beers that keeps up the price to its present height. We have had a few foreign buyers over, but not many. Good stuff has been most sought after. I cannot hear that the diamond mounters are doing anything for the Antwerp Exhibition.

Amsterdam, April 26th, 1894.—Our diamond market during the month has shown but little improvement. Sales are difficult to effect even at a minimum profit, the only stock that found any favor at all being small stuff, but even then it had to be exceedingly well cut. Melé of four grains average was also in some request, but not at high figures; while large stones met with no demand whatever. There is one consolation, all stocks are now very low and will soon get exhausted, so that should there be any demand at all replenishments will be necessary, and market prices must rise. Kapjes and rough are very slow. Most of the factories close eight days during the Passover.

Paris, April 27th, 1894.—So far as the sale of diamonds is concerned we are in no altered condition. There is still a fair amount of work going on amongst the diamond setters for the Antwerp Exposition. France is jealous of her honors in fine taste and inventive designs, and will not lose her position among the nations by absenteeism. She knows fully well that all exhibits, in themselves, do not pay at the moment, but without them nothing can be done. We have had a few South American buyers, but not up to the average. It is only the very finest stuff that commands attention.

Silver.

THE precious white metal has shown a much more active state in the market than in the preceding month, and appears to have bid good-bye to the bottom figure 27d., and not once during the month has it dropped to 28d., but on many days with increased demands from China and India it has passed 29d.; in fact, with only a few exceptions, there has been an upward tendency all the month, and on going to press it is quoted at 29⅛d.

Tin.

THE Cornish metal has been up and down a bit, though not anything alarming; one thing, we should say it could not well go much lower, as it is only somewhere about two-thirds the price it was, even at this time last year. On the whole, however, there has been a general upward tendency during the month, the opening prices being under £69 and closing over £71.

Copper.

THE red metal has been fairly steady; the pounds figure forty, only altering to £41 for a couple of days ; during the rest of the month it has varied downward to £40 1s. 3d.

Spelter.

SPELTER has been exceptionally steady, varying from £15 17s. 6d. to its closing price £15 12s. 6d.

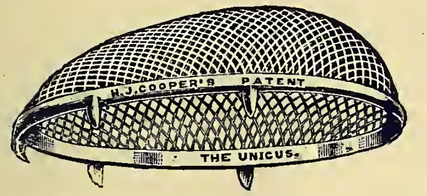
Mercury.

MERCURY has slid about slightly more than is usually the case, the lowest quotations being £5 7s. 6d. and the highest £5 12s. 6d.

Things New or Noteworthy

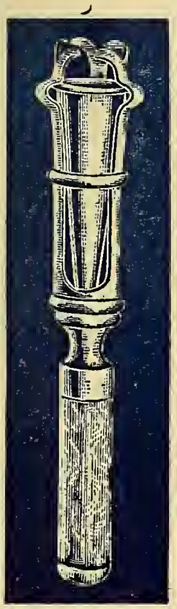
The Bachelor's Cup Full.

To the several methods of producing a cup of tea in a hurry there are certain objections to be raised, but recently we have seen a new patent, against which these do not hold good. It is known as the Unicus—doubtless, in some manner connected with its being regarded as *unique*—if so, it is well named. It is another of the useful inventions of H. J. Cooper and Co., Ld., Thavies Inn, E.C. A glance at the accompanying illustration shows it to be simplicity itself, and as usual we ask the question, why has it not been thought of before? A fine mesh screen simply fits over the oval bowl of the spoon, in the manner shown above, from which it can be slid off with a slight pressure. We have seen a little four-year-older take it off and on, which will say something for its simplicity. We are not aware if the spoon is considered part of the "Unicus"; if not, the strainer will fit any ordinary full-sized, well-made teaspoon, and no dozen teaspoons ought to be sold without one of these useful accessories. The price is almost nominal. We have tried it for both tea and coffee, and find it answers admirably; better, in fact, than we should have expected, and we have no hesitation in prophesying a great demand for this valuable assistor, under otherwise unfavorable circumstances, to the cup that revives and not inebriates.



Jeweler-Made Cigar-Holders.

Now that cigar-holders are attracting the attention of jewelers, and can so often be seen mounted in gold, it is quite possible that henceforth the gold, and even jewel-mounted cigar and cigarette holder will more and more become articles of regular stock. Many can now be seen, in amber, mounted with pierced gold, and are certainly very rich and imposing looking. There is all the more probability that this fashion will take as it has been gaining ground on the Continent and in America for some time. We here reproduce an American idea which may suggest others. This happens to be in silver, but the same thing could be made in the more precious metal, providing it was not too heavy. It will be seen that the cigar or cigarette, almost irrespective of its size, can be placed into the funnel receiver, and the three-legged clip made to grip it firmly, and thus hold it in position.

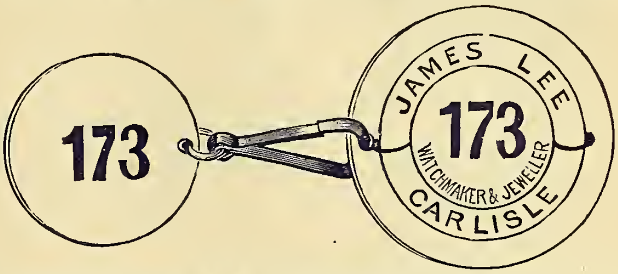


A New Attraction.

H. WEISSBECK AND Co., St. Thomas-street, Scarborough, and Llandudno, have recently patented a contrivance which is of a very attractive nature, and although eminently suitable for opticians, will doubtless find many patrons in other branches of business. It consists of a wax face mounted upon a velvet plinth, the eyes of which are kept in perpetual eccentric motion. According to the local Press, passers-by are much amused and attracted by it.

Kosmo Repair Ticket.

A NOVELTY of great interest to repairing watch-makers, called the "Kosmo" Repair Ticket, has just been brought out. We give an illustration of it here:—



It takes the shape of two numbered celluloid discs with the name and address of the watchmaker blocked in gold letters on the larger disc, which is to be given to every customer bringing a repair, while the plain disc with the corresponding number is attached to the article to be repaired. This forms an excellent advertisement and keeps the name of the watchmaker and his address continually before the customer. The numbers on each separate set being different, no mistake can be made when returning the repairs, and the system of consecutive numbers will make it very easy for the jobber to find a repaired article immediately it is wanted. Another new feature of the Kosmo Repair Ticket is, that for a small extra charge a special advertisement can be put in gold-blocked letters on the back of the disc which the customer receives for his repair. We venture to think that every watchmaker who has an eye to the advantage of effective advertising, will place an order at once.

Tortoise-shell v. Tortoisette.

THERE are quite a number in the trade who are under the impression that the beautiful yellow and brown horny material sold under the name of tortoise-shell is really the dermal plates of a tortoise of some sort. They have never taken the trouble to compare articles an eighth of an inch in thickness and a foot or more long with the delicate crinkled plates of small size which form the tiles upon the bony house of the tortoise. The best of the material of large size which has long been regarded as "tortoise-shell" in trade, is really turtle-shell; but how few can even distinguish this from various imitations! and now that its counterfeiting has been carried to such perfection, we can quite forgive anyone being deceived. We have watched with great interest the various experiments of Messrs. King and Son, and regard the remarkable success which they have now achieved with great pleasure. A walk round the good retail houses soon convinces one that "tortoise-shell" goods are well to the front, and were we not in the secret, we should wonder where all the "tortoise-shell" is coming from. As a matter of fact, the material now exposed never formed part of any chelonian armor. It is one of those new compounds of a class that it is not claiming too much to say are revolutionising modern life. We unhesitatingly say that few in the jewelry trade could distinguish between tortoise-shell and tortoisette. With such a material as this at hand no wonder that Messrs. King and Son are turning out some charming novelties, which will commend themselves—first, because of the novelty and beauty of tortoisette itself, and secondly, because they are articles very much in favor just now.

CELLULOID WATCH-PROTECTORS.—D.R.G.M 6,392.—We are informed by the agents of this article that the sale is increasing every month. Since the 1st of January, 1894, over a quarter of a million (about 2,000 gross), which represents about 200 dozen per day, have been sold in this country alone, and great credit is due to the manufacturer, as well as the agents, that all orders, as they come in, have been executed promptly

In and Out of the Courts.

He Was No Judge of Rubies.

A VERY remarkable case was brought into court during the last month. Julius Leopold Ullman, who for the last four or five years has carried on a business in the Royal Arcade, Old Bond-street, W., paid a visit to the Lakes, and subsequently to Newcastle, where he waited upon a jeweler, named Falk, with the hopes of doing a little business, by way of paying for his summer holiday. To the jeweler of the Coal City the "West End man" displayed his treasures, which were admired. But, said the Northerner, you have not shownme anything as fine as this, and forthwith called out for a ruby to be brought from the safe. Then followed a detail of the merits of this newly-acquired gem, which had not been shown to a living soul. He affected not to wish to sell the treasure, but offered it to the Londoner for the small price of £30 a carat, its weight being just over three carats, adding, "If you buy it for that price, I reckon I am giving you £100." Ultimately Ullman offered to take the "ruby" in exchange for other stock, viz., a diamond pendant, valued at £55, a diamond and sapphire bracelet at £35, an aquamarine and topaz brooch valued at £17 5s., and a £5 note. When the West Ender returned to town he took the newly-acquired treasure to Alex. Wallace, a first-class London lapidist, and then discovered that it was nothing more than a garnet doublet, and forthwith commenced a correspondence with the Northerner, which did not end satisfactorily. Consequently the case was taken into court. Naturally some staggering statements were made, which have supplied any amount of material for other equally well-informed people who flourish under the title of "penny-a-liners." Defendant contended that plaintiff bought the stone upon his own judgment, while the latter declared it was sold to him as a ruby; a statement which the jury believed, and found a verdict for him accordingly.

The City Lanes Again.

ABOUT half-past five on a recent morning, the premises of Messrs. Light and Stanley, silversmiths, of 24, Philpot-lane, were broken into by burglars, who effected an entry by smashing the front window. Goods to the value of between £60 and £70 were taken away. No one but those who have visited these sort of places in the City can realise what a death-like silence reigns between night and morning, and we often feel the shops are left far too much in the care of the police.

Sorry for What he had Done.

RICHARD MCLAUGHLIN is a watchmaker just under two score years of age, and for a long time used the file and brush in a honorable manner; but evil times set in upon McLaughlin, and the demon drink got hold of him. First he began to pawn one job and then another, until he became inextricably involved, and not being able to bear the strain any longer, gave himself up to the police. Thirty-six charges were brought against him, but he said he hoped to be able to recompense the prosecutors, and to try his word the magistrate let him out on bail for four weeks. Let us hope he will be able to do it, and that he will "shun all appearance of evil" in the future.

A Splendid Capture.

THE Birmingham police are deserving all the credit and compliment we can bestow upon them for a recent capture they have made of two of the worst "crooks" that are often run to ground. Both burglars were old gaol birds. One, named George Thomas (29), had been previously sentenced, and the other, John Rogers, appears to have led a life of crime having been sentenced to several long terms of imprisonment. It was clearly shown that although ostensibly engaged in keeping a broker's shop they had been connected with a number of burglaries, not only in Birmingham itself, but throughout the Midlands, extending their operations to Nottingham and Manchester. In December last the premises of Draysey Bros., Worcester-street, were successfully burglarised, when some iron wedges were left behind which were exactly like those found in the possession of the prisoners. Another jeweler's was similarly entered at Nottingham, in January last, when £800 of "swag was stowed." In February three shops in Corporation-street were also victimised. On March 3rd a pawnbroker's shop at Manchester was also successfully entered, and some £600 worth of jewelry carried away. On the night of March 24th Detective-inspector Monk and Detective Taylor, passing through the jewelers' quarter, heard someone inside the warehouse of William Seal, Pitsford-street. Finding the doors unlocked, they proceeded inside, where they pounced upon the two criminals busily engaged upon a safe containing over £1,000 worth of stones. They had already successfully operated upon another safe, and had secured £150 worth of booty. Upon the premises occupied by the "crooks" were found large quantities of jewelry and other effects, connecting them with numerous burglaries, some of which have been mentioned above. A woman is also said to be implicated in the affairs. Thomas was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude and three years' police supervision, and Rogers to six years' similar employment, with a similar period under the eye of the administrators of the law.

A Jeweler Suggests the Temperance Pledge.

HENRY JOYCE, of Denbigh, North Wales, is rather more lenient than most men. Recently a man entered his shop and asked to be shown some silver watch-chains, and when F. P. Joyce had turned his back the ought-to-have-been purchaser slipped one into his pocket. The young jeweler immediately missed the articles, and, catching hold of the appropriating hand, caused the albert to be withdrawn from the pocket in which it had been secreted. A constable was sent for, and the man given into custody. It was stated that the prisoner was the worse for drink, so that the good-natured jeweler suggested that, as a punishment, the erring offender should sign the pledge. The magistrate concurred, and bound him over to come up for judgment if called upon.

Innocent of his Trade.

HENRY HIBBERT, a Pontypridd jeweler, is the victim of such sweet innocence that he had a very narrow escape in a recent trial in which the Crown appeared to prosecute. The counsel for the defendant was a Q.C. and an M.P. and made a first-class defence of what might otherwise have turned out a very awkward case. It appears that the jeweler recently bought two rings for 5s., one of which was a three-stone diamond gipsy, and estimated at £15. The other ring was valued at 4s. 6d., so that the three diamonds, plus an "18ct." stamped shank, are valued at 6d. But the jeweler knew so little of the trade by which he obtained his livelihood that, according to his statements, he thought it was only paste. However, the ring was sent to Birmingham to be done up, and how the jobber's invoice was made out would be interesting. The Chairman of the Sessions, having summed up in favor of the guileless jeweler, he was acquitted of receiving the ring with guilty knowledge of its being stolen. Of course, he was just as innocent as the jury found, although admitting that would be reflecting small credit upon the trade, as it is questionable whether a man ought to be allowed to buy jewelry, as in this case, without knowing something of its value. Had he only the merest acquaintance with gems, he ought to have known diamonds from glass, and might then have brought the thieves to justice. So that, if only in public interest, and the credit of the trade in general, we think there ought to be some test put to a man before he is licensed by the State to adopt the profession of a jeweler.

A Very Light Sentence.

HARRY LESSITER, whatever his success as a bookmaker might have been, was very lucky over his Brighton exploits. In February last he visited London-by-the-Sea, and tendered sundry worthless cheques to tradesmen, and with them obtained from William Challen, a jeweler, a gold bracelet, a gold ring, and £1 change. From W. B. Isworth he also obtained a gold watch under similar circumstances. It was in the act of pledging the bracelet that, through the action of a knight of the golden balls, prisoner was given into custody. Although there is a warrant out for him in London on a similar charge, he was let off with four months' hard labor.

Though "Soft," he had to Pay.

J. W. MATHEWS, a Hayle jeweler, was favored by a visit from J. Rogers, of St. Erth, who was accompanied by two ladies, both of whom, the latter gentleman assured the horologer, had been very kind to him, and in return for this he wished to present them with a watch each. The watches having been supplied, the question of payment was raised, when Rogers wrote to say he would meet his liabilities. But somehow he did not, hence an action in the County Court. Defendant said he had only been in plaintiff's shop once, had never bought the watches, or said he would pay for them, and that the letter was not in his handwriting. It was pleaded that Rogers was "soft," but his son was put into the box, and proved that the letter was in the father's handwriting. Payment of 5s. a month was ordered.

More Tramp Window-Smashers.

THE quiet little market place of Kettering, Northampton, was recently thrown into some excitement by a tramp *en route* from Selby, Yorks, who, in one of those fits that appear to overtake minds in a certain condition, after gazing upon the glittering treasures displayed in a jeweler's window, raised a huge cudgel and forthwith commenced to smash the window, and in so doing effected damage to the extent of the sum of £12. This curious mental phase that is lately so much on the increase recalls to our mind what the old men of three generations ago used to tell us of the firing of corn stacks. Then it was the storing up of this world's goods in the shape of the staff of life that excited the vagrant and the discontent to arson, now it is the display of wealth as shown by the glittering of gold and gems that induces the mental state, so that "the injustice of nature" has been shifted from the farmer to the jeweler. There is thus at least one thing in which the condition of the farmer has been improved. We wonder what the state of society will be when the wares of the jeweler will be below the contempt of the vagrant; and we are puzzled to imagine what will be the possession the contemplation of which will send men off their heads.

Another Lock-up Shop Looted.

MRS. PARK, a North-road, Durham jeweler, is another of those who have realised the non-security of lock-up shops. Recently, upon her shop being opened, it was discovered that burglars had picked the padlock and forced the door, and when once in, had ransacked everything, and had made a selection of gold watches and jewelry to the extent of some £500, and had departed without leaving their cards behind.

A Debtor's Act Case.

RECENTLY there was brought before the Liverpool City Police Court a case in which Charles Stuart King was charged under the 18th Section of the Debtors Act of 1869, with having obtained several rings, valued at £295, by false pretences. It appears the rings were given to him in October, 1892, and July, 1893, respectively, upon the understanding that they were for a customer in Canada, King representing that he did a large business over there. In December, 1893, King filed a petition in bankruptcy, and before the Bankruptcy Court King admitted that the rings were pawned by his consent, and the proceeds used for his personal expenses. The accountant who was trustee of the bankruptcy estate, stated that when debtor commenced business in September, 1892, he was insolvent, and although this was not shown by the books it was by the file. The Treasury Agent instructed the prosecution, and the case was referred to the Sessions.

A Long Sentence.

ROBERT HALSTEAD, *alias* Walker, was recently placed in the dock, at the Nottingham Quarter Sessions, charged with being a fraudulent bailee of certain watches entrusted to him to repair. On the prisoner had been found forty-nine tickets for watches, which he had pawned in various parts of the county. Prisoner pleaded, for the sake of his wife and children, to be dealt with leniently, as he had no intention of defrauding, but that he intended to redeem all the watches, and had only been forced into this by want of capital; that he had held appointments of watchmaker to most of the nobility around, and had more than once sat upon assize juries in that very hall. The Bench then retired, and, no doubt, had the case been such a one as one would expect, he would have been lightly dealt with, but it was stated that in 1876 he had been sentenced to penal servitude for very similar offences, and that he had resorted again and again to the old practice for twenty years. He was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude, and five years' police supervision.

A Grimsby Burglary.

AT the Grimsby Borough Police Court, on the 5th ult., Richard Anderson, 20, laborer, of Holbeach, and James Malam, 18, laborer, of Lincoln, were charged on remand with stealing watches and jewelry, value £145, from the shop of Edmund Fountain, jeweler and pawnbroker, Kent-street, Grimsby. About £130 worth of the stolen property had been recovered. The shop was a "lock-up" one. Both prisoners were committed for trial.

The St. Austell Scissors Grinder.

THE woman Small, the wife of a scissors grinder, to whom a St. Austell jeweler parted with goods valued at the sum of £24, has been brought back from Jersey, whence she fled, and sentenced to four months' hard labor.

More Light Sentences.

AT the Somerset Quarter Sessions, James Steward, 28, and George Barnes, 19, were indicted for stealing a number of gold watches and rings at Taunton, in February last, valued at £30. Steward was sentenced to one month's imprisonment, and Barnes, against whom there were two previous charges, to four months' hard labor

Sequel to the Newport Ring Robbery.

IT will be remembered that recently there was a charge of ring stealing at Newport, where a man, Price, and his new wife were traced to London, but unfortunately got off. They have since been arrested in Wales and taken to Newcastle. During the journey the female made her escape to Birmingham and has since been taken in London. The man has been sentenced to three years' penal servitude for a jewel robbery from the shop of Mr. Wilson, a jeweler, of Grey-street, Newcastle. Their method of work was for the woman to engage the attention of the assistant, either inside or outside, and then for the man to come in for some trifling thing, and take the opportunity of seizing the valuables. In the case at Grey-street, 36 rings, valued at £200, were stolen. Price, although only 19 years of age, had been previously convicted.

"Lock-ups" Again.

THE Newcastle police recently made a smart capture. One of them on going his round, in peeping through the hole in the shutter of the shop of Isador Summerfield, Park-lane, Newcastle, espied a strange occupant in the act of helping himself to the contents of the window, which, with the help of another man, he had stripped and packed up ready for taking away. The list of the goods thus made ready was very great, amounting to nearly £300. The prompt action of the constable brought brother officers to the scene, and soon the nefarious couple, named John Brown (20) and Harry Smith (19) respectively, were marched stationwards.

A Case for the Public Prosecutor.

A CASE was recently before the Herefordshire Sessions in which Amy Morris, 30, of no occupation, was indicted for stealing, at Leominster, during the last three months, a gold pendant, a silver brooch, several gold and diamond rings, a set of electro-plated articles, and some clothing, the property of Sarah Janet Hopton, in all valued at the sum of £100. In the course of the evidence it was stated that a Mr. Ballard, jeweler, had purchased some of the stolen property, without the slightest inquiry, from a girl aged nine and a boy aged ten—a diamond ring worth twenty guineas for 10s., and a gold pendant worth ten guineas for 2s. 6d. The stones were taken out of the ring, and, as appeared from an admission made by him at Leominster, the gold had been sent away to be melted. Counsel, addressing the Court on behalf of the prisoner, remarked upon the good character borne by the woman up to that time, and said that, had it not been for the action of Ballard and a woman named Williams in purchasing the stolen articles, probably the thefts would never have been committed. Williams had also purchased seventy electro-plated spoons and forks, valued at £10, paying for some 3d. each, for others 2d. each, and for others 1d. each—an average of 2d. per article. The Court sentenced the prisoner to four months' hard labor, and ordered all the documents in the case to be laid before the Public Prosecutor. We hardly ever recollect a worse case than this, and we are sure that the whole trade will be glad to see the Public Prosecutor take up such a case.

Jewelry Stolen in Transit.

DURING the last eighteen months or so members of the trade who have been in the habit of transmitting their unfinished goods to Chester for the purpose of being hall-marked, have experienced considerable annoyance by parcels being lost in transit. The other day a parcel containing a quantity of gold sleeve links and other articles was similarly lost. Detectives having been set to work, some of the jewelry was discovered to have been sold as old gold, and the wife of the jeweler being able to give a description of the man who sold it, she was taken to where a certain guard was, whose duties had brought him in contact with the parcels, whom she at once recognised. The guard, however, protested his innocence, but upon being searched at the station, more of the stolen property was found upon him. Further inquiries will probably bring some interesting things to light.

Curious Third Party Case.

RECENTLY, Rantenberg, Couzen and Co., Charlotte-mews, W., entered an action against Bendon and Co., the well-known clock-makers and importers, Charterhouse-street, to recover the sum of £18 for a clock supplied to them. The defendants did not dispute the debt, and they had never done so, they having paid the money into court; but they were served with a notice by the third parties, Messrs. Stenzleit, Fulding, and Co., of Cleveland-mews, that they were not to pay the plaintiffs but themselves. The Court was therefore asked to say to whom the money was due. The third parties' case was that the plaintiffs did the work in connection with making the clock, while they (the plaintiffs) were in the service of the third parties.

The plaintiffs, on the other hand, said that they did the work on their own account. In the end the Court found for the third parties for £4 13s., and costs, an order being made for the defendants to receive their costs of appearance, and the plaintiffs were to have the balance.

Burglary in the Strand.

ON the morning of the 19th ult., the premises of R. and J. Slack, cutlers and silver dealers in the Strand, were burglarised. The entrance was made from one of the courts at the back, and the thieves, after having unsuccessfully operated upon a safe, were glad to fall upon manufactured articles. These they carefully sorted over, and rejecting any but those of the sterling metal, they managed to leave the premises unnoticed with a large quantity of these in their possession.

A Drunken Man Smashes a Window.

RECENTLY a man, stated to be drunk, attacked the window of Mr. Rainbow, jeweler, 7, Aldgate High-street, and effectually smashed it. He was fined 10s., and £4 10s. damages, or, in default, one month's imprisonment. The mere cost of the glass on these occasions being only a part of the loss, it is a question if something more than the price of the repair ought not to be awarded in cases like these.

The Marriage of Mr. Horace Hood.—The accounts of this important Birmingham event, which was briefly reported in our last issue, have recently filled several columns of the local newspapers. The colossal business which flourishes under the name of Thomas Hood and Sons is as well-known to our readers as are the members of the firm to the inhabitants of Birmingham Naturally the wedding of a member of so popular and highly-connected a family as this brought together a large concourse of people, and presents almost beyond number were showered upon the young newly-married pair. But amongst them all there were two of especial interest—the first an illuminated address from the employes, couched in language which was probably as heartfelt as it was homely and familiar, expressing the good feeling which existed between employers and employes ; and the other a silver tea set which accompanied it. It is very nice to see this good feeling existing between capital and labor, and we only echo the hopes of the address that their connection will be a long and honorable one.

The "Real Maker."—We are often surprised at the horological matter contained in our esteemed contemporary the *English Mechanic*, sometimes from its absurdity, but frequently from the reverse, and the information and ideas published in this widely circulated medium cannot fail to have an effect upon the buying public. During the last ten years we have noticed a great deal of effort on the part of the purchaser to drive home the article to its "real maker." The same desire was manifest in the preceding decade, and hence the sight of machinery in motion, or of anything that appeared to indicate an absolute maker, in contradistinction to a mere vendor, has always commanded a certain amount of patronage. But when assertions are made in the public papers that not one of the so-called makers is really a maker at all, customers are found to push some very awkward questions at times, of which they formerly never dreamed. We do not for one moment conceal the fact that we believe the time is coming when the makers of watches will be known to the public, and that the products of large manufacturers will acquire a certain reputation in the eyes of the money-spending population. During the last year almost every newspaper throughout the kingdom has told its readers about the marvels of modern watchmaking. The exaggerated statement has been made again and again that the old-fashioned English watchmaking is quite dead, and the large factories are now responsible for the English article. In the face of this, an assistant in nearly every little shop will hand a customer a machine-made watch, constructed by machinery which would buy up a whole street of such establishments, and assure the customer it is "our own make." If he were to pause for a moment and ask himself what was the good of such a prevarication he would never utter it. A man of ordinary intelligence—who keeps himself abreast of what is going on around him—knows very well that the man selling the article did not make it all, nor would he think any the more of it if he thought he did. Time after time the daylight is being let into this state of things. The following is from the *E. M.* :—"Any boy behind the counter in a jeweler's shop will tell you 'We,' or as they like to term it, 'I will make it,' though in most cases utterly unable to file a pin. And if they are modest, or perhaps proud, enough to admit they do not make it themselves, they will give you to understand that they will supervise the making up of the best material, etc. How long the British public will continue to be gulled by those glib-tongued parasites in our trade I do not know.

A 24-Hour Timester.—Bristolians have been mourning the loss and want of a public clock, which has been met by the enterprising firm of William Tucker and Son, 81, Augustine's-parade, which has erected outside its premises a three 3ft. dialler. This marks the hours in the natural manner of from 1 to 24.

Death of an Old Tradesman.—The trade and Eastbourne have recently sustained a loss in the death of Edward Winder, at the age of 72. The deceased was well-known and highly respected, and of far above average intellectual capabilities. Over forty years ago he published a book (a poem) called *The Young King*.

OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

AARONSBERG, WM., *Optician*, 12, VICTORIA-STREET, MANCHESTER. Mr. Hockin applied on the 25th ult., at County Court, Manchester, for this debtor's discharge. The Official Receiver reported that the proofs actually admitted, together with probable claims, showed liabilities amounting to £2,798 0s. 3d., while the assets had realised £465 12s. 11d., of which £352 6s. 3d. would be available for distribution among unsecured creditors. The trustees estimated that the first and final dividend would not amount to 1s. in the £. The debtor alleged as the causes of his insolvency a breach of promise case, in which £500 was awarded to the plaintiff, Miss Amelia Sutton, and a reduction of sales in consequence of trade disputes. It appeared, however, that the insolvency must also be attributed to a liability of £355 in connection with the erection of a synagogue in Cheetham Hill-road. The Official Receiver charged the debtor with certain offences under the Bankruptcy Act, and his Honor held that the debtor had been guilty of a misdemeanor within the meaning of the Debtor' Act. He had no option, therefore, but to refuse the discharge absolutely.

BASNETT, JOHN, *Watch and Watch-Movement Manufacturer*, 22 and 23, MEADOW-STREET, COVENTRY. The receiving order and order of adjudication were made on March 31st. The first meeting and public examination have been held, and at the latter debtor stated that in 1889 he sold his business to the Lancashire Watch Company, and went to Prescot to live, on the understanding that the company would find him employment at £4 a week. This was not carried out, and he sued the company for £4,280, eventually settling with them for £1,288, he paying the costs, £115. The examination was adjourned to enable the debtor to file certain accounts. Amongst the creditors are :—

		£	s.	d.
Cooke, Charles	Coventry	264	0	0
Gravenor, Robert	,,	134	0	0
Willday, J. S.	,,	105	0	0
Bund, Charles	,,	33	0	0
Mander, Henry	,,	21	0	0
Shaw, J	,,	20	0	0
Saggerson, Thomas	Prescot	21	0	0
Emery, Constant	Saisse	37	0	0

BEARD, FRANCIS EDWARD, AND FLETCHER, THOMAS (BEARD AND FLETCHER, trading as), *Jewelers*, 60, NORTHAMPTON-STREET (late 23, PITSFORD-STREET), BIRMINGHAM. The public examination was held on 11th ult., before Mr. Registrar Parry, at County Court, Birmingham. They said they commenced business in 1890, with a capital of £50. They were allowed to pass their examination.

BIRNSTEIN, EMIL RICHARD (R. BIRNSTEIN, trading as), *Jeweler*, 447 and 609, COMMERCIAL-ROAD, E., LONDON. An order of adjudication was made on April 11th. The first meeting was held on 10th ult., at Bankruptcy Buildings, Carey-street, when Mr. Lawrence Hasluck, chartered accountant, 17, Holborn-viaduct, was appointed trustee, with a committee of inspection. The accounts filed show liabilities expected to rank £1,055 7s. 11d., and net assets, £705 19s. 2d. Debtor's insolvency is attributable entirely to losses and expenses in connection with the premises at 447, Commercial-road. The following are creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Dehorter and Co.	London	24	10	6
Greenwood and Sons	,,	64	0	0
Galloway, A.	,,	50	4	8
Hirsch, Pritchard and Co.	,,	24	0	0
Henessy, N.	,,	20	0	0
Ling, E.	,,	90	1	10
Louis, Marie	Leipzig	50	0	0
Natbion Bros.	London	27	17	3
Over, T.	,,	77	12	6
Robinson and Chapman	,,	30	12	9
Salomon, E., Trustees of	Leipzig	102	9	9
Thompson, J., and Sons	London	72	17	9
Unna, H. A.	,,	32	3	0
Williamson, H., Limited	,,	192	15	8
Wilkins, F.	,,	55	0	0
PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS		70	18	0

CROUCH, PEARCE HENRY (trading as HENRY CROUCH), *Optician*, 66, BARBICAN, LONDON. The first meeting and public examination have been held, and at the former no resolutions were passed, the Official Receiver, therefore, remaining trustee.

The debtor's insolvency is attributable to loss on trading since September, 1893, and to liability under the lease of the premises at Barbican, in respect of which judgment was obtained against him in March last. The unsecured liabilities amount to £1,391 4s. 5d., and assets, after deducting preferential claims, nil. The following are creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Conquest, E. C.	Woodford	235	9	0
Doubavand, N. O.	Tottenham	140	0	0
Greenaway, D.	London	50	0	0
Grimshaw and Baxter	,,	44	0	0
Osborn, T., and Sons	Woodford	25	0	0
Smith, R.	Clapton	25	0	0
FULLY SECURED CREDITOR		82	0	0
PARTLY SECURED CREDITOR		735	0	0
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES		13	15	0
PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS		145	1	9

CUMMINGS, GEORGE BULMER (G. B. CUMMINGS AND CO., trading as), *Jeweler and Watchmaker*, 47 (late 90), LINTHORPE-ROAD MIDDLESBROUGH. The public examination was commenced on 11th ult., at Court House, Bridge-road, Stockton-on-Tees. Debtor's statement of affairs showed unsecured liabilities amounting to £666 1s. 8d., and assets amounting to £227 8s. 3d., leaving a deficiency of £338 13s. 5d. The examination was continued on the 18th ult., and again adjourned.

DONALDSON, ALEXANDER WHYTE, *Jeweler, etc.*, 48, STROUD GREEN-ROAD, LONDON. The receiving order was made on March 28th, and order of adjudication on April 2nd. The first meeting of creditors has been held, and the examination taken place at Carey-street, W.C. According to the accounts filed, the gross liabilities amount to £2,620 11s. 8d. (unsecured, £1,574 6s. 7d.), and assets, £292 10s. 10d. The debtor attributes his failure to want of capital, bad trade, and to his expenses having been in excess of his profits. The following are creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Aske, N. G. D.	London	50	0	0
Finnis and Wylie	,,	39	0	0
Hawke, Thomas	,,	36	0	0
Nudes, L. G.	,,	70	0	0
Taplin and Co.	,,	26	0	0
Wadsworth, Mrs.	,,	250	0	0
PARTLY SECURED CREDITOR.				
Harding, W. J.	Southsea	1,800	0	0
PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS		36	11	7

DUNLOP, CHARLES JAMES, *Watch Material Dealer*, 62, GREAT HAMPTON-STREET, BIRMINGHAM. The receiving order was made on April 3rd, and order of adjudication on April 19th.

ELDRIDGE, CLAUDE CHARLES, AND LYON, HENRY MORRIS (the WHOLESALE SUPPLY COMPANY, trading as), *Jewelers*, 46A, MARKET-STREET, MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE. The receiving order and order of adjudication were made on March 28th. The first meeting of creditors has been held, and the examination is fixed for May 7th, at 11 a.m., at Court House, Quay-street, Manchester. The Official Receiver, in his observations, says the debtors state they commenced business in July, 1892, with £20 cash, which they borrowed from their respective fathers. They attribute their failure to "want of capital, the coal strike, expenses of advertising, and bad debts."

FIDLER, FRANK, *Silversmith's Manager* (late *Manufacturing Silversmith*), 212, MYRTLE-ROAD (late Advance Works, Denby-street), SHEFFIELD. The receiving order and order of adjudication were made on March 28th. The first meeting and public examination have been held. It transpired at the meeting that the debtor started business with a capital of £200 eight or nine years ago. In July last he turned his business into a company, and was allotted £500 in 5 per cent. preference shares and 200 ordinary shares of £5 each, so that he got £1,500 worth of shares, and, in addition to that, he had an interest under his father's will, and his furniture. Since July last year he had managed to get rid of all these shares and furniture. Was not now worth sixpence. The following are creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Glossop, William	Sheffield	37	0	0
Wells, Smith Henry	,,	150	19	0
Fidler, Benjamin (contingent liability)	,,	656	0	0

FOX BROS., *Jeweler*, 104, RADFORD BOULEVARD, NOTTINGHAM. The receiving order was made on April 13th.

GREAVES, ALFRED, *Manufacturing Jeweler*, TENBY-STREET NORTH, BIRMINGHAM. An order of adjudication was made on March 28th. The first meeting has been held at 23, Colmore-row, and the examination on May 23rd, at 2 p.m., at the County Court, Birmingham.

LEWIS, HYMAN, *Jeweler*, 33, LOWER BRUNSWICK-STREET, LEEDS. The receiving order was made on April 7th and adjudication on 18th. The first meeting has been held and examination will take place on 8th inst. at 11 a.m., at County Court House, Albion-place, Leeds.

LONDON, FRANCIS (FRANK LONDON, trading as), *Manufacturing Jeweler and Diamond Mounter*, 1, ALBION-ROAD, DEPTFORD, and 231, OXFORD-STREET, LONDON. An order of adjudication was made on 2nd ult. The first meeting and public examination have been held. The gross liabilities are stated to be £1,632 8s. 9d., of which £1,445 3s. 10d. is unsecured, and assets, after deducting preferential claims, £207 12s. 1d. The debtor states that since May 2nd, 1888, he has carried on business as manufacturing jeweler and diamond mounter, and he attributes his failure to losses in trading (through insufficient trade, expenditure on designs, and want of capital), and on goods pledged for less than cost and not redeemed. The following are creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Kebber, W.	London	510	0	0
Irons, M. A. S.	,,	75	0	0
Jenam, J.	Winchester	30	0	0
West, R.	Brockley	30	0	0
Pope, H. W.	New Cross	20	6	9
Millard, F.	London	133	0	0
Kellor, L., and Co.	,,	64	0	3
Schmidt, C.	,,	139	3	4
Newell, J.	,,	37	11	7
Slyper, J. E.	,,	70	0	0
Wilson, O.	,,	155	11	11
Comyns and Son	,,	20	0	0
FULLY SECURED CREDITORS		62	0	0
PARTLY SECURED CREDITOR		105	14	3
PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS		75	4	11

MASTERS, THOMAS, *Watchmaker, Jeweler, etc.*, HIGH-STREET, TENTERDEN, KENT. The first meeting and public examination have been held. The gross liabilities amount to £537 9s. 7d., and the assets are : Stock in trade, £110 ; trade utensils, etc., £12 ; furniture, £33 ; stock in pawn, £11 ; book debts, £23 1s. 3d. ; total, £189 1s. 3d. Deducting preferential creditors for rent, taxes, etc., £2 5s. 10d.. the amount left is £186 15s. 4d., and the deficiency, therefore, £384 8s. 4d. The causes of failure are stated as "depression in trade, and illness in family." The following are creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Avery, R.	Tenterden	63	7	11
Cooper and Co.	London	27	0	0
Hall and Sons	,,	24	13	0
Kynoch and Co.	Birmingham	47	0	0
Lane, H.	London	15	12	6
Moss, S. L.	Birmingham	55	11	0
Newington, Dr.	Tenterden	99	0	0

MILLS, EDWIN JOSEPH, and TROW WILLIAM FRANK, (MILLS AND TROW, trading as), *Silversmiths*, 53, NORTHAMPTON-STREET, BIRMINGHAM. The further examination of these debtors took place on March 29th, and after a number of questions had been answered, they were allowed to pass.

PAGE, JOHN ALBERT, late *Jeweler, etc.*, BISHOP'S CLEEVE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. The receiving order was made on April 19th, and the debtor adjudicated bankrupt on the same date.

RADGES, JOSEPH, *Watch Manufacturer*, ARGYLE HOUSE, BUTTS, COVENTRY. The receiving order and order of adjudication were made on April 14th. The first meeting has been held and the examination is fixed for May 28th, at 2.30 p.m., at County Hall, Coventry. It appears the debtor has carried on the business of a watch manufacturer since 1865, and since 1876 at his present address. His capital at the commencement consisted of fixtures, materials, and borrowed money, amounting to £500, which he succeeded in repaying within the following three or four years. The gross liabilities are stated to be £3,746 6s. 10d., of which £1,597 14s. 4d. is expected to rank for dividend, and assets, estimated to realise £248 18s., or a deficiency of £1,348 16s. 4d. The following are creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Brown, A.	Birmingham	187	4	6
Harris, A.	Coventry	145	0	0
Harris, C.	,,	25	2	3
Hunt and Co.	Prescot	43	2	5
Radges, M.	,,	448	0	0
Rolleson, A.	Birmingham	24	4	0
Trahern, F.	Coventry	118	6	0
Radges, R.	,,	245	0	0
Willday, J. S.	,,	65	8	6
Wright, F.	,,	79	13	6

		£	s.	d.
Fully Secured Creditors		2,145	10	0
Liabilities on Bills Expected to Rank		95	2	0

RILEY, Francis Bolton (F. B. Riley and Co., trading as) *Wholesale Jeweler, etc.*, 92, Paradise-street, Liverpool. The first meeting and public examination have been held.

SHEPPARD, Wm. John Jesse, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 35, Lower Marsh, Lambeth, late 320, Essex-road, Islington. This debtor's accounts show a deficiency of £158 1s. 9d. He attributed his insolvency to "falling-off of business and loss of credit from firms I did business with."

SMITH, Harold, *Silversmith*, 1, Margaret-street, Regent-street (lately carrying on business in co-partnership with Enrico de Martino, at 3 and 4, Via Santa Brigida, Naples, as De Martino and Co., and at 6, Ludgate-square, London). The receiving and adjudication orders were made on April 16th.

STONE, Ephraim, *Dealer in Jewelry*, 71, Queen's-place, Claypit-lane, Leeds. Under this failure accounts have been filed showing unsecured liabilities £268 2s. 4d., and assets, £20 18s. 10d. The debtor is a Pole. He came to England 16 years ago, but cannot read or write in English. He puts his failure down to a great robbery of his stock whilst he was in the synagogue, concerning which robbery the police report they make nothing of it. The following are creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Cooke, Wm.	Birmingham	71	0	3
Hill, Thos. and Co.	Coventry	132	0	0
Michael Bros.	London	27	19	3
Neill and Co.	,,	33	0	0

TROTT, Joseph, *Jeweler*, 14, Cloudesley-street, Islington. The receiving order and order of adjudication were made on 4th ult. The first meeting has been held, and the examination will take place on 8th inst., at 12.30 p.m., at Bankruptcy Buildings, Carey-street, W.C.

WRIGLEY, Ernest Julian, *Jeweler, etc.*, Station-street, Melthan, near Huddersfield. The receiving order was made on April 14th. The first meeting has been held, and the examination will take place on May 10th, at 11 a.m., at County-Court, Queen-street, Huddersfield.

DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT.

BOURGEOIS, Achille, *Watch Manufacturer*, 59, 60, and 61, Hatton-garden, E.C., and 3, Alexandra-road, Finsbury Park. Trustee : Harry E. Knight, 32, Basinghall-street, E.C., C.A. Composition of 10s. in the £, by three equal instalments, at four, eight, and 12 months from date hereof, secured by an assignment upon trust, etc. (one creditor for £4,800 postponing his claim). When the said composition be paid, the estate to be absolutely assigned to the said postponing creditor. Secured creditors, £3,869. Dated April 18th ; filed April 19th. Unsecured liabilities, £5,965 12s. 11d. ; estimated net assets, £2,249 15s. 11d. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Enay, Edward	London	127	0	0
Schmeitter, E., and Co.	,,	61	0	0
Jeannot, J. P.	,,	40	0	0
Thalman and Co.	,,	72	0	0
Schultis, Schwar and Co.	,,	32	0	0
Vigier, R.	,,	274	0	0
Bourgeois, L. Gerardin	Bienne	4,845	0	0
Perremond, Z. et Fils	Chaux-de-Fonds	92	0	0
Morthey, Arnold	,,	28	0	0
Warrin, Comment	Porrentruy	58	0	0
Société de Horlogerie	Rosieres	37	0	0

BRAY, William James, *Jeweler and Optician*, High-street, Stevenage. Guarantor and assignor : William Bray, 34, Walsworth-road, Hitchin. Composition of 10s. in the £, payable by two equal instalments at one month from execution, and at one month from July 1st, 1894, last instalment secured by a surety, also absolute assignment to him in consideration thereof. Dated March 19th ; filed March 21st. Unsecured liabilities, £191 3s. 9d. ; estimated net assets, £80 12s. 6d. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Round, S.	Birmingham	33	5	10
Bray, W.	Hitchin	83	10	0

BROOK, G. H. and Co. (George Henry Brook, trading as) *Jeweler*, 22, Thavies-inn, Holborn, and 67, Crescent-lane, Clapham. Trustee : Allen Edwards, Bennett's-hill, Birmingham, C.A. Secured creditors, £618 3s. 4d. Dated April 6th ; filed April 10th. Unsecured liabilities, £4,454 8s. 7d. ; estimated net assets, £1,747 12s. 9d. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Bates, Alfred W.	London	60	0	0
Cooper, H. I., and Co.	,,	74	0	0
Walton, G. E., and Co.	,,	47	0	0
Appleby, A., and Co.	Birmingham	124	0	0
Booth, E. F., and Sons	,,	68	0	0
Collins, W. H.	,,	111	0	0
Cohen Bros.	,,	21	0	0
Davis, Montague	,,	75	0	0
Goldsmid and Sons	,,	46	0	0
Hollis and Newman	,,	42	0	0
Hemming and Hazelwood	,,	28	0	0
Lister and Wright	,,	158	0	0
Levetus Bros.	,,	76	0	0
Lucas Bros.	,,	26	0	0
Neale and Sons	,,	52	0	0
Patterson, W., and Co.	,,	28	0	0
Rabone, W. H. F.	,,	154	0	0
Spiers, D. and L.	,,	165	0	0
Wall, I.	,,	32	0	0
Wright and Hodgkiss	,,	285	0	0
Haigh, A.	Huddersfield	2,410	0	0
Bankers' Claims		149	0	0

CHAPMAN, Albert, *Jeweler and Silversmith*, 101, Commercial-road, Landport. Trustee : Thomas M. Attlee, 8, Newhall-street, Birmingham, C.A. Secured creditors, £330. Dated March 30th ; filed April 5th. Unsecured liabilities, £1,345 8s. ; estimated net assets, £1,234 15s. 2d. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Haswell, R., and Sons	London	23	0	0
Adkies, H., and Sons	,,	21	0	0
Newmark, M.	,,	21	0	0
Unna, H. A.	,,	31	0	0
Glover and Barnes	,,	25	0	0
Stauffer, Son, and Co.	,,	23	0	0
Joseph, I., and Sons	Birmingham	357	0	0
Brockington, Bros.	,,	165	0	0
Feldman, M.	,,	34	0	0
Dight, M., and Sons	,,	23	0	0
Edwards, B.	,,	23	9	0
Platnauer Bros.	Bristol	35	0	0
Louch, —	Landport	22	0	0
Ayler, G. T.	,,	32	0	0
Senior and Bradbear		92	0	0
Cunningham, —	Portsea	25	0	0
Briggs, —	Sheffield	21	0	0
Godfrey, —	Southsea	25	0	0
Bankers' Claims		150	0	0

ENGLAND, Henry, *Watchmaker, Jeweler, and Optician*, 74, Heaton-lane, and 5a, Green-lane, Heaton Norris, Stockport. Trustee : Nathaniel Calvert, Tiviotdale, Heaton Norris, Stockport accountant, with a committee of inspection. Dated April 17th ; filed April 23rd. Unsecured liabilities, £188 11s. 4d. ; estimated net assets, £131 9s. 6d. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Armstrong, T., and Bros.	Manchester	68	14	5
Abbiston, Jos.	Stockport	44	7	0

HANDS and SON, *Electro-plater* (William Joseph Hands, trading as) 136, Suffolk-street, Birmingham. Trustee : James W. G. Hill, 24, Temple-row, Birmingham, C.A. Dated March 29th ; filed April 5th. Unsecured liabilities, £1,770 1s. 3d. ; estimated net assets, £750. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Adams, R. T. J.	Birmingham	23	0	0
Crawley, Parsons and Co.	,,	39	0	0
Harris, A., and Son	,,	143	0	0
Vivian and Co.	,,	74	0	0

HULL, Henry, Jun., *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 188, Bethnal Green-road, E. Trustee : William Winterton, Hackney Railway Station, Mare-street, Hackney, auctioneer. Dated March 13th ; filed March 20th. Unsecured liabilities, £250 1s. 6d. ; estimated net assets, £40. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Schweroee, S. H.	London	56	13	0
Mojon, Manger and Co.	,,	38	1	6
Potter, W., and Sons	,,	29	16	0

MANTEGANI, John, *Jeweler and Silversmith*, 2, High-street, Wisbech St. Peter. Trustee : George G. Poppleton, 164, Aldersgate-street, London, C.A. Dated March 16th ; filed March 20th. Unsecured liabilities, £462 18s. 5d. ; estimated net assets, £227 3s. 10d. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Davis, Frank	London	30	0	0
Mahlendoff, F.	,,	49	0	0
Hayden, R. D.	Birmingham	172	0	0
Willis, Mark and Son	Sheffield	127	0	0
Myers, Joseph	Shudehill	34	0	9

PAYNE, William Benjamin, lately a *Jeweler*, of 15, Castle-street, Bristol, now of 5, Great Western-street, Sloane-street, Manchester. Trustee and Guarantor: Charles Payne, Thomas-street, Manchester, wholesale jeweler. Composition of 10s. in the £, payable by two equal instalments, on 10th of July and October, 1894, secured by the said trustee, etc., with an assignment to him of stock-in-trade, book debts, etc., upon trust to realise. Dated April 10th; filed April 11th. Unsecured liabilities, £269 12s. 6d.; estimated net assets, £110. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Bernard and Baer	London	37	0	0
Fulda and David	,,	31	0	0
Weill and Co.	,,	30	0	0
Cross and Co.	Birmingham	26	0	0
Lloyd, Payne and Amiel	Manchester	33	0	0
Wright, L. J., and Co.	,,	20	0	0

POND, Charles, *Jeweler*, 35, High-street, King's Lynn, and Le Strange-terrace, Hunstanton. Trustees: William Hitchcock, King's Lynn, bank manager, and another. Secured creditors, £538. Dated April 17th; filed April 19th. Unsecured liabilities, £285 11s. 4d.; estimated net assets, £252. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Wisbey, J., and Co.	London	27	0	0
Hayden, R. D.	Birmingham	82	0	0
Winlove, H.	King's Lynn	25	0	0
Pond, Miss	,,	27	0	0
Bankers' Claims		56	0	0
Secured Creditor		538	0	0

PYPER, John, *Jeweler*, 76, High-street, Belfast. Trustee: George William Dunbar, Belfast, accountant. Assignment for benefit of creditors. Dated March 27th; filed March 29th. Unsecured liabilities, £1,040 11s. 3d.; estimated assets, £450. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Jeannot, Paul	London	56	8	6
Hearts and Co.	,,	26	10	0
Cohen and Son	Birmingham	131	0	0
Cohen Bros.	,,	45	2	0
Sydenham, A.	,,	99	16	3
Crosbie, A. W., and Co.	,,	85	11	0
Fitter, H., and Sons	,,	65	3	3
Leather, W. H.	,,	26	10	0
Brown	Coventry	48	5	4
Wolffe, Sam	Glasgow	34	10	0
Hillier and Co.	,,	24	3	0
Lancashire Watch Co.	Prescot	59	11	0
Gallimore, John	Sheffield	50	0	0
Johnson, Christopher, and Co.	,,	40	0	0
Nodder, John, and Son	,,	25	0	0
Wilkinson, H., and Son	,,	23	4	6

SHEPHERD, George Frederick, *Jeweler and Silversmith*, 83, Angel-lane, Stratford, and 1, Grosvenor-road, Ilford. Trustee: George G. Poppleton, 164, Aldersgate-street, E.C., C.A. Secured creditors, £55. Dated April 2nd; filed April 7th. Unsecured liabilities, £1,398 5s. 5d.; estimated net assets, £719 3s. 7d. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Ansonia Clock Co.	London	37	0	4
Bowman, —, Limited	,,	184	16	5
Cooper, H., and Co.	,,	35	1	9
Golanez, A.	,,	127	0	0
Grandon, E., and Co.	,,	106	4	2
Leaver and Breeze	,,	26	3	1
Lawson and Ward	,,	145	11	4
Meyer, A., and Co.	,,	40	0	6
Williamson, and Co., Limited	,,	41	0	0
Waterbury Watch Co.	,,	26	9	6
Orme, H. E.	,,	55	0	0
Harrison, James	Birmingham	42	0	0
Beurret Frères	Brenleux	143	10	0
Hawley, John	Coventry	92	8	6
Cook, Alfred	Leeds	23	0	0
Enay, E.	Switzerland	84	0	0
Fully Secured Creditor		55	0	0

SMITH, Joseph James, *Jeweler*, 122, High-street, Peckham. Trustee: Mayer Blanckensee, 3, Summer Hill-terrace, Birmingham, jeweler, with a committee of inspection. Dated April 18th; filed April 21st Unsecured liabilities, £1,836 16s. 10d.; estimated net assets, £645 14s. 9d. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Brook, G. H., and Co.	London	292	14	8
Drake and Lewis	,,	40	18	3
Calver, E.	,,	141	4	9
Bromet and Co.	,,	30	14	7
Lewis, W.	,,	132	10	4
Levy, M.	,,	31	15	3
Bates, Alfred W.	London	25	4	0
Smith, Mrs.	,,	131	19	5
Blanckensee, M.	Birmingham	725	8	4
Bankers' Claims		106	6	4

SMITH, Robert, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 57, Church-place, Lurgan. Trustee: James Dobbs, Bray, commercial traveller. Assigment for benefit of creditors. Dated March 8th; filed March 12th. Unsecured liabilities, £1,859 2s. 6d.; estimated net assets, £350. List of creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Grimshaw and Baxter	London	118	18	9
Thompson, J., and Son	,,	40	16	3
Steel and Sons	Belfast	28	6	3
Smith, Robert	,,	20	0	0
Holmes, William James	Birmingham	330	17	6
Matt, Thomas L.	,,	247	13	9
Cohen, J., and Co.	,,	148	13	9
Harris, H., and Co.	,,	108	17	6
Bayliss, H.	,,	20	3	9
French, Robert	Glasgow	58	8	9
Pearson, Thomas	,,	39	11	3
Dickson, James	Lurgan	213	18	9
Hayes, Hughes	,,	40	2	6
Emerson, William	,,	31	7	6
Norman, S. E.	Manchester	71	12	6
Bryson, James	Portadown	20	0	0
Nodder, John, and Sons	Sheffield	130	0	0
Tower Cycle Co.	Wolverhampton	38	7	6
Bankers' Claims		50	16	0

SUDLOW, Thomas William, *Jeweler*, 185, Cleethorpe-road, Great Grimsby. Trustee: Thomas Frow, 3, Alexandra-road, Great Grimsby, insurance agent. Secured creditors, £68 10s. Dated April 11th; filed April 17th. Unsecured liabilities, £317 8s. 3d.; estimated net assets, £133 15s. 3d.

NOTICES TO CREDITORS.

BACHNER, Morris, *Jeweler*, 32, Brewer-street, Regent-street. Dividend of 2⅜d. at Official Receiver's, Bankruptcy-buildings, W.C.

BUSHELL, John, *Electro-plate Manufacturer*, late 40, Tenby-street North, Birmingham, and 212, Lozells-road, Aston, who died February 15th. Claims to R. Chinn, 26, Corporation-street, Birmingham, solicitor, by May 1st.

WINKS, William, *Jeweler*, 65, Argyll-arcade, Glasgow. Equalising and second dividend at R. John Calver's, 30, Castle-street, Edinburgh, S.S.C., May 26th.

TRUST DEEDS GRANTED.

BOWER, David, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 31, Market-street, Brechin. Claims to William Anderson, solicitor, Brechin, by April 19th.

CALLUM, Thomas, *Watchmaker*, Hawick. Claims to J. W. D. Kirkland, solicitor, 2, Oliver-place, Hawick, by March 22nd.

GORDON, Alexander, *Watchmaker*, Macduff, Banff. Claims to James Meston and Co., C.A., 75, Union-street, Aberdeen, forthwith.

DISSOLUTIONS OF PARTNERSHIP.

BERESFORD and Co., *Electro-plate and Britannia Metal Manufacturers*, 78, Summer-row, Birmingham. March 25th. By effluxion of time.

COX, Joseph H. and S. J., *Jewelers*, 7, Warstone-lane, Birmingham. March 12th. Debts by Samuel James Cox, who continues.

HUGHES, T. and J., *Watchmakers and Jewelers*, Central-arcade, Wrexham. March 1st. Debts by John Hughes, who continues.

JOHNSON, E. H. and Co., *Importers of Clocks, Bronzes, Lamps, and other articles of a like nature*, 8, Red Lion-square. March 1st. Debts by Edward Henry Johnson.

KRAUSS BROS., *Diamond Merchants*, 101, Hatton-garden. December 30th, 1893. Debts by Sydney Krauss and Henry Joseph Krauss, who continue under the same style.

MERZBACH, LANG, and FELLHEIMER, and FELLHEIMER and Co., *Manufacturers and Importers of General Fancy Goods*, 6, White-street, Moorfields, and 57, St. Mary-axe, and the Union Clock Co., Merzbach, and Fellheimer, Furtwangen, *Manufacturers of Clocks*, Baden, Germany. March 19th.

TOFIELD, A. F. and J., *Silversmiths*, Wilsick Works, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield. April 16th. Debts by James Tofield, who continues under the same style.

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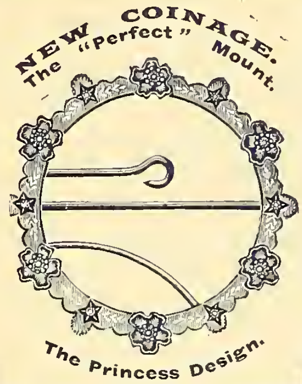
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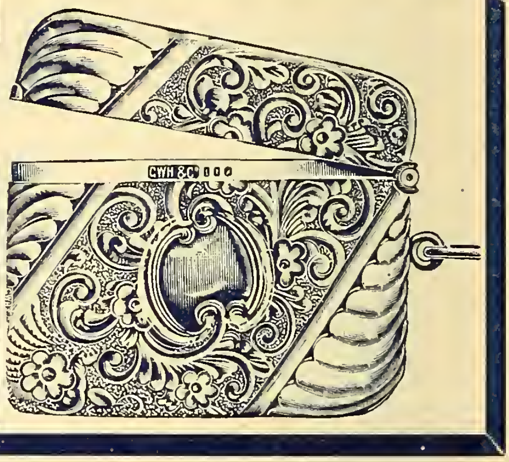

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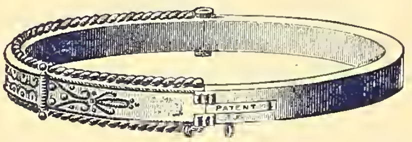

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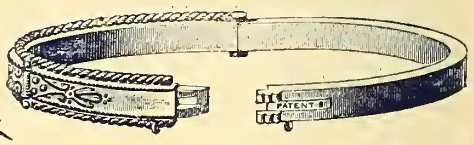

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The
Watchmaker, Jeweler and Silversmith.

EDITED BY W. J. LEWIS ABBOTT, F.G.S.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.] [*Registered for Transmission Abroad.*

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WE are pleased to inform our readers that our business has entirely outgrown the room afforded by the offices at 68, Fleet-street. Our friends will kindly note that our new address is

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(CORNER OF GRAY'S INN ROAD).

IN THE INTERESTS OF THE TRADE.

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PATENTS, TRADE MARKS, & DESIGNS.—Arrangements have been made with an expert whereby subscribers to this journal can receive information respecting these free of charge. Letters of inquiry must be addressed to the Editor of THE WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, AND SILVERSMITH, Patents, Trade Marks, and Design Department, 150, Holborn, London, E.C., and must in every case contain stamped and directed envelope for reply.

ENTRE NOUS
HARPOCRATES.

BY THE EDITOR.

THE GREENWICH TRIALS.

ELSEWHERE we give the result of the annual trials of chronometers and deck watches, the latter in classes A and B, conducted at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich. In the former, the trial lasts for no less a period than twenty-nine weeks, and the deciding factors are, difference between greatest and least weekly rates (a), and greatest difference between one week and the next (b). The formula being $a+2b$, *i.e.*, the latter item is doubled and added to the former, which gives a number, which is known as "the trial number." Obviously in this test the lower the trial number, or "chronicle of errors" comes out, the higher the merit of the watch. It thus differs from the number of marks awarded at Kew. When we see that in the first forty watches an error of nearly 100 is reached, we are perhaps better prepared to appreciate the success achieved by the Veteran Clerkenwell horologist Mr. Isaac, whose chronometer, No. 1933, came out with its errors actual, multiplied and added with a trial number of only 15·7.

The trial of deck watches at the Royal Greenwich Observatory is a very severe one and lasts sixteen weeks, the factors being the difference between greatest and least weekly rates with dial *up* (a) added to twice the greatest difference between one week and the next, also with dial *up* (b), added to a proportion of the weekly rates obtained as follows, assuring dial up in all cases, then pendant up = (c); pendant right = (d); and pendant left = (e); pendant positions then equals $\frac{1}{2}(c + \frac{d+e}{3})$. So that the trial number is obtained as follows; $a + 2b + \frac{1}{2}(c + \frac{d+e}{3})$. By this it will be seen that most importance is correctly put upon the performance of the watch in the natural, or pendant up position. The first thing that strikes our attention is the record number attained by Mr. Buckney with a deck watch, No. 30,785, where the small figures 28·7 represent the whole chronicle of errors. Mr. Buckney's productions are not only widely known but are a credit to the Trade. Messrs. Johannsen and Co. secure the second position, and Mr. Bolton Smith, of Wigmore-street, the third. We believe this is the first time Mr. Bolton Smith has submitted his productions to the "Royal" test, and he is to be congratulated upon the success he has achieved, especially as from his high theoretical knowledge and position as examiner for the correspondence class at the Horological Institute he might be regarded as a little more theoretical than practical; so that if there were one more assurance needed that the practical must be based upon the theoretical, we have it in the achievements of this horologist. There is another point in connection with this which may be of interest to the rising members of the Trade, and that is the assurance here given of the ability with which the examinations for the Horological Certificates are conducted.

In the trial for deck watches for Class B the trial is rather less severe, and extends over fifteen weeks. In this the trial number is the result of the following factors, all being taken with dial up. To the difference between the greatest and least weekly rates, (*a*) is added twice the greatest difference between one week and another (*b*), and half the difference of weekly rates pendant up (*c*). So that the formula for finding the trial number becomes $a + 2b + \frac{c}{2}$. In this list Messrs. Usher and Cole, whose productions are known all over the world, come out first with a trial number of 44.0, Mr. Buckney scoring second, and a large proportion of the remaining places. The watches are classified as A or B by their respective makers, in which class they are entered. Upon the whole we have much of which to be proud in the results obtained this year, which improvement we are glad to hear the authorities have recognised in paying rather higher prices than usual.

THE PLATE LICENCE.

THE correspondence we have received upon this important subject would certainly fill several pages, and only want of space prevents us from publishing it all. The trade is well aware of our opinion on this existing injustice, and we lose no opportunity of impressing upon our readers the important facts of the case from time to time. Messrs. Field and Son are to be highly congratulated on the result of the trouble they have taken—which is extremely great—in getting together the facts, and now we have so much material on hand it will be a lasting shame if something is not done in the matter. Were it not for the fact that the London Trade Association has taken up the matter we should be pleased to form a society for the purpose, and place our offices at its disposal. The question, we believe, is to be brought forward at the next meeting of the Association so that until then we feel we cannot make any move in another direction. Two of the letters we publish elsewhere raise the question of a retail association, and, doubtless, there are many questions which immediately and exclusively concern the retail trade which the wholesale association would not feel of pressing importance; hence the justification for a second society. The two societies might not necessarily be in opposition to each other, as it must be admitted that the interest of the two classes are quite separate and distinct in many things, although identical in the main. Messrs. Field have got together at enormous trouble and cost a lot of figures and facts, by which it is shown that no less than 22,000 agents throughout the kingdom have been reported to them as engaged in this unlicensed business. Still there are other facts which need collecting, and every member of the trade will do well to send either to them or to us the names of any who are so engaged, together with any of the particulars of "tally," or illegal trade done in their district. We have an enormous mass of information upon the subject, and we feel that if the Wholesale Association do not take up the matter, that we, in the interests of the retail trade, ought to do so. Messrs. Field have already placed the facts of the case in the hands of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as might have been inferred from the way in which he received Baron Rothschild's questions. Messrs. Field are also to be thanked for approaching their member on the question. They informed him that the attention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer having been previously called without any result to the large number of illicit dealers in gold and silver plate and jewelery trading without a licence, they had been requested to write to him and also to ask the Baron, as their representative, if he would kindly confer a favor on the provincial retail watch, jewelry, and plate trades by putting certain enclosed questions to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the House of Commons. In a short note the Baron replied personally, promising to put the question to the Chancellor without delay. The ball has thus been set rolling, and now is our time to bring the question to a successful issue. We hope we shall receive the support of the whole Trade of the kingdom upon this important question.

THE PERILS OF THE TRADE.

THERE is no trade so exposed to the malcontent, the knave, the rogue, and the thief as ours; otherwise our reports of police proceedings would be much shorter. Many of these are of so common a character, that, despite their enormity, we take them as the makings-up of life. There is one particular crime to which the Trade sometimes falls a victim, examples of which have been furnished on several occasions during the last few years, and that is of no less a magnitude than the stealing a horse, brougham, and load of stock. Perhaps one of the most outrageous daylight examples of this occurred on a recent afternoon at three o'clock in the busy thoroughfare of Oxford-street, W. It appears the valuable stock of Messrs. Stauffer, Son and Co., Charterhouse-street, E.C., had excited the cupidity of an organised gang of thieves, who, watching their opportunity, carried their nefarious object almost to a successful end. At the time and place stated, the traveller of the firm left the brougham locked up in charge of the coachman, who was standing upon the pavement, and venturing a few yards turned round in time to see a man driving off the fast travelling steed with the brougham and its contents. In vain he called "stop thief," and in vain he jumped into a cab to try to catch up to the villian who held the stolen reins behind the quick stepper of Messrs. Stauffer Son and Co., and soon all sight and trace of brougham, with its very valuable contents, were clean out of sight. The police-station, however, was soon made for, and in half-an-hour it is said that word of the robbery had been telegraphed to every police-station within fifteen miles. About seven o'clock the inspector at Bethnal Green was giving instructions to a detective when the sharp eye of the thief realised his game was up, and, stepping off the box, made good his escape, and abandoned the ship in full sail. Needless to say, the brougham and contents were taken into custody, and the horse, instead of charged with being a wandering vagabond, was safely returned to its owner, whom we are sure the whole Trade will be pleased to congratulate upon the return of the wanderer driven from home. Nor will their congratulations be withheld from the police, as it is about as smart a capture as we have had the pleasure of hearing of for many a long day. The locking of the doors of the carriage and all the stock being locked up, had prevented any transference of the plunder, so that, apart from the worry and shock—which, of course, must have been very great—no loss or damages were sustained. This painful occurrence, and what might have been a very serious robbery of Messrs. Stauffer, Son and Co., should impress upon all travellers the necessity of forbidding an attendant leaving his post even for a moment!

PROFESSOR JUDD ON RUBIES.

FOR the first time in the history of modern science one of our great authorities has chosen for a subject for three lectures before a scientific and semi-scientific audience, such as gathers at the Royal Institution, the emperor of the gems, the imperial ruby. To one possessed with the average knowledge of this inimitable gem, it may appear curious how the professor—with all his deep learning—could dedicate three lectures to the consideration of one stone. But the fact is, if he had extended the lectures to a dozen, there would yet have been many things left unsaid. Unfortunately, however, what he did say is worse than lost; first, because the lectures will not be published; and, secondly, because what reports have appeared of them are so incorrect, and include such a lot of rubbish that for ever afterwards a lot of preposterous nonsense will be fathered upon the innocent head of Professor Judd. All this, we are able to say, the professor repudiates, and he is in no way responsible for it. Unfortunately the Journalists' Institute do not think scientific knowledge an indispensable qualification for the journalist, and hence—we blush to say it—one can never depend upon a newspaper report. Fancy such a sentence as the following being put into his mouth and copied into high-class journals all through the country: "A crystal of pure red corundum we call 'ruby,' a crystal of the blue variety is called 'sapphire,' a green crystal we know as an 'emerald,' and other tints are known as aqua-marine, topaz, and so on." Here it is either asserted or implied that color alone distinguishes the gems, and that they are all, or very many of them, of the same composition, viz., alumina. If color alone constituted the latter gem it would, indeed, be difficult to name it, seeing that it occurs in reds, pinks, oranges, browns, cinnamons, and other hues too numerous to mention, including the most common, viz., that of the aqua-marine. Equally misleading are the references to the chemical composition of the gems. "In the purer corundums there are but slight traces of lime, oxide of iron, and magnesia, but in 'spinel' there is a larger quantity of magnesia." From this anyone would infer that the spinel is a ruby that has taken an extra dose of magnesia. Take, again, the following: "Some corundum crystals show in patches the tints of the ruby, the sapphire, and the emerald all mixed up together. These colors are due to the special way in which the structure of the crystal deals with the light passing through it, the ruby absorbing all the rays except those which emerge to give it its characteristic color." From this it might be taken that light suffers absorption in passing through nothing else but the ruby! These are only samples of the misleading unscientific nonsense that has been put into the mouth of one of the first scientific observers of the day. Naturally his treatment of the artificial production of rubies has correspondingly suffered, and from the things he is made to say, it would appear that these articles, like coals at Newcastle, are produced in large quantities, and form an important article of commerce, of which he was able to show large quantities. Needless to say these are all exaggerations, and considering Professor Judd very unselfishly informed the audience to whom the exhibited specimens belonged; we suppose it would not be a breach of confidence to inform our readers, that the specimens have already been described by us shortly after we obtained them from M. Fremy. We have an idea that Professor Judd will subsequently bring out a monograph upon the ruby and Burmah ruby mines, otherwise we should give a report of the method the professor adopted in dealing with his subject, and the principal facts he adduced, as it is a subject of overwhelming interest, and one with which Professor Judd is so eminently qualified to deal. Personally we are delighted to see him take up the fascinating subject, as it will add and originate a new interest in those mysterious operations of nature which have resulted in the emperor of the gems.

MARKETS.

Diamonds.

London, May 28th.—There is no great change in our market. The trade of the country certainly shows slight signs of improvement, and a few orders have been given in connection with the marriage of the Czarevitch, which have caused a little move. Rough is not a penny cheaper, and business not a wit easier. Still, all the immense quantity of diamonds, which the Wernher-Beit Syndicate have bought in those world-record deals, are absorbed, and they have just bought up the De Beer's product once more, amounting to something over half-a-million sterling. But, notwithstanding the price of rough, really fair stuff can still be bought at quite a low price, and it is questionable if buyers will do any good in waiting for the placing of their orders.

Amsterdam, May 25th.—The trade in polished diamonds continues to be weak. Sales are effected with the utmost difficulty and at unremunerative prices. Large purchases are like angel's visits, few and far between. The United States, usually the best market for fine goods, has bought very little, though of late the news from them has been more encouraging. It seems that the panic is now over, and that folks no longer believe that the world's trade is at its dissolving point. Now for the sale of a quantity of middle-class goods, we have here to look to arrivals and orders from Russia and Poland. The great annual fair of Nishni-Novogorod takes place in the month of July, and merchants make their purchases for this fair in the month of June, so that mill-owners ought to commence now to work full time in order to have stock on hand ready for the increased demand. This is the more urgent, as the best season for the diamond trade are the months of June, July and August. In June it is for the merchants who are going to visit the fair; in July and August it is for those who return from the fair and who want to replemish their stocks, and also for those who have cashed their outstanding debts—as many known customers pay only from fair to fair. Thus the end of the fair is an epoch of good financial resources to many; which encourages fresh investments. There is only one fear in the matter and it is that the Kimberley and London holders of *rough* may feel induced to raise their prices, on account of the impending additional demand, and so throw cold water upon the would-be speculators, instead of considering it to their advantage to keep the manufacturers and merchants well supplied with goods during these three months, so that they may be worked and sold, and thus ease the market of the over-stock of rough, which otherwise must be laid up again until the month of October.

Paris, May 25th.—There is no marked improvement yet in the sale of diamonds. The expected foreign buyers, it seems, are in no great hurry to come. In general the rush of foreign visitors has greatly diminished of late, it is said on account of the scare for Socialistic disturbances, and dangerous attacks in public resorts. Now, however, the general quietness will soon again attract the foreign element which is almost indispensable to the Paris trade. A few orders for Russia were in the market, but of no great importance. Luckily some marriages in high life are on the *tapis* in these friendly quarters, which are very likely to benefit our great firms of diamond-setters.

Silver.

IT cannot be said that during the month the price of silver fell to the record prices of March, but on the average it was within a very small fraction of the average prices of April. Very rarely during the month has it exceeded 29d., and after leaving that figure in the first week of the month never again reached it. Once it fell to 28 1-16d., but has averaged about 28½d.

Tin.

THE Cornish metal has been a little more active during the month, though still at a miserable price. It fell once to £70 12s. 6d., and has frequently risen to £72 5s., but the last week it was about £71 10s.

Copper.

THE red metal has chopped about more than usual, with an up-and-down motion which leaves it but slightly different from opening prices. Once or twice it fell below £39, but more often passed over £40, it is now nearer the former than the latter.

Spelter.

SPELTER has been remarkably steady all the month, varying only a few pence, standing as it now does at £15 15s.

Mercury.

THE agile fluid has also been remarkably steady, opening at £6, at which it stood for the first fortnight. It then fell 6d., and has remained at that price.

Ivory.

AT the last ivory sales, at which supplies were greater than those of the same time last year, business opened quietly, but the tone slightly improved as sales went on. The supplies were in excess of demands, although there was some amount of buying for America. East Indian soft medium teeth were £3 to £6 cheaper, and most other sorts correspondingly lower. Cape ball scrivelloes, on the other hand, were £3 to £5 dearer. West African ball scrivelloes were also higher, as were Niger, but everything else was lower.

OUR SPECIAL PLATE.

No. 1. Design for brooch in the new enamel, spray of raspberries, and the initial letter R. The R in colored gold. The fruit and leaves *au naturel*, or the fruit could be carried out *en cabochon*, in rubies, and the leaves in enamel or emeralds. If carried out in enamel the stems would be enamelled as well as the buds and leaves. If in stones, the stems parcel-gilt, and the initial bright gold on aluminum would make a pretty contrast. The initial could be altered to suit special cases.

No. 2. Design for badge or medal in gold or silver. The centre can be filled by view—depicting either golfing, horse-racing, cricketing, cycling—or by monogram, inscription, or arms. This would look very pretty if carried out in gold and aluminum; if for tasty, but inexpensive medal, silver parcel-gilt.

No. 3. Humming-bird for brooch or head-dress; can be carried out in new enamel or stones. If in enamel, the natural colors should be employed for top and back of head, which should be a peacock green, also shoulders and wings, and running down back a rich brown melting into a rich carmine red as it reaches the tail, terminating at the commencement of the tail feathers in yellow; the wing and tail-feathers, brown.

No. 4. Design for brooch in new enamel. The whole could be in enamel except trellis-work, a diamond to lay on trellis-work; the frame would be very tasteful in variegated enamel, the violet colors *au naturel*, the centre a pearl, or the flower could be in natural color and the frame a dead gold, ormolu tint.

No. 5. Design for centre shield for presentation casket. This could be carried out in repoussé or carving, but there is no reason why the new enamel should not be flushed over the raised work and so make a pretty touch of color to either gold or silver casket, the flowers could then be colored *au naturel*, the flourishing in variegated enamel.

No. 6. Design for new enamel brooch; the frame in gold, the lilies in colors *au naturel*, the ribbon would be pretty in ruby red or French grey.

No. 7. Design for pendant in stones. The frame in pearls, connected to the enamelled loop by pearls; the centre a diamond, above which, and at either side, are rubies; the loop to be enamelled, also the bands; a diamond point in centre of each; in the four corners, emeralds.

No. 8. Design for monogram, W.M., for either carving, whole or half, or for engraving or enamelling; if for either of the last, the light flourishing would be engraved around it.

No. 9. Design for pendant in stones. Frame diamonds, loop connected therewith by four pearls; in centre oval, a cabochon-cut ruby, above which, and at either side, are pearls, a pear-shaped pearl dropping from the centre. The upper member is finished by a pendant emerald at either side; at either side of bottom member are pear-shaped pearls *en suite* with centre, and at bottom, in centre, is suspended a pearl similar to those in upper member.

No. 10. Bracelet in stones and gold. The entwined knots in brilliants, inside of which are pearls, and on either side rubies, the drop, a gold frame heart; inside of which is one of the new stones.

No. 11. Design for gentlemen's scarf-pin in new enamel and stones, the scroll in varigated enamel terminating in diamonds; the drops emeralds, the spray of oak in colors *au naturel;* dead-color, not bright fluxed.

No. 12. Design for scarf-ring in new enamel and stones. Brilliant flanked by pearls.

No. 13. Design for scarf-pin in roses and pearls.

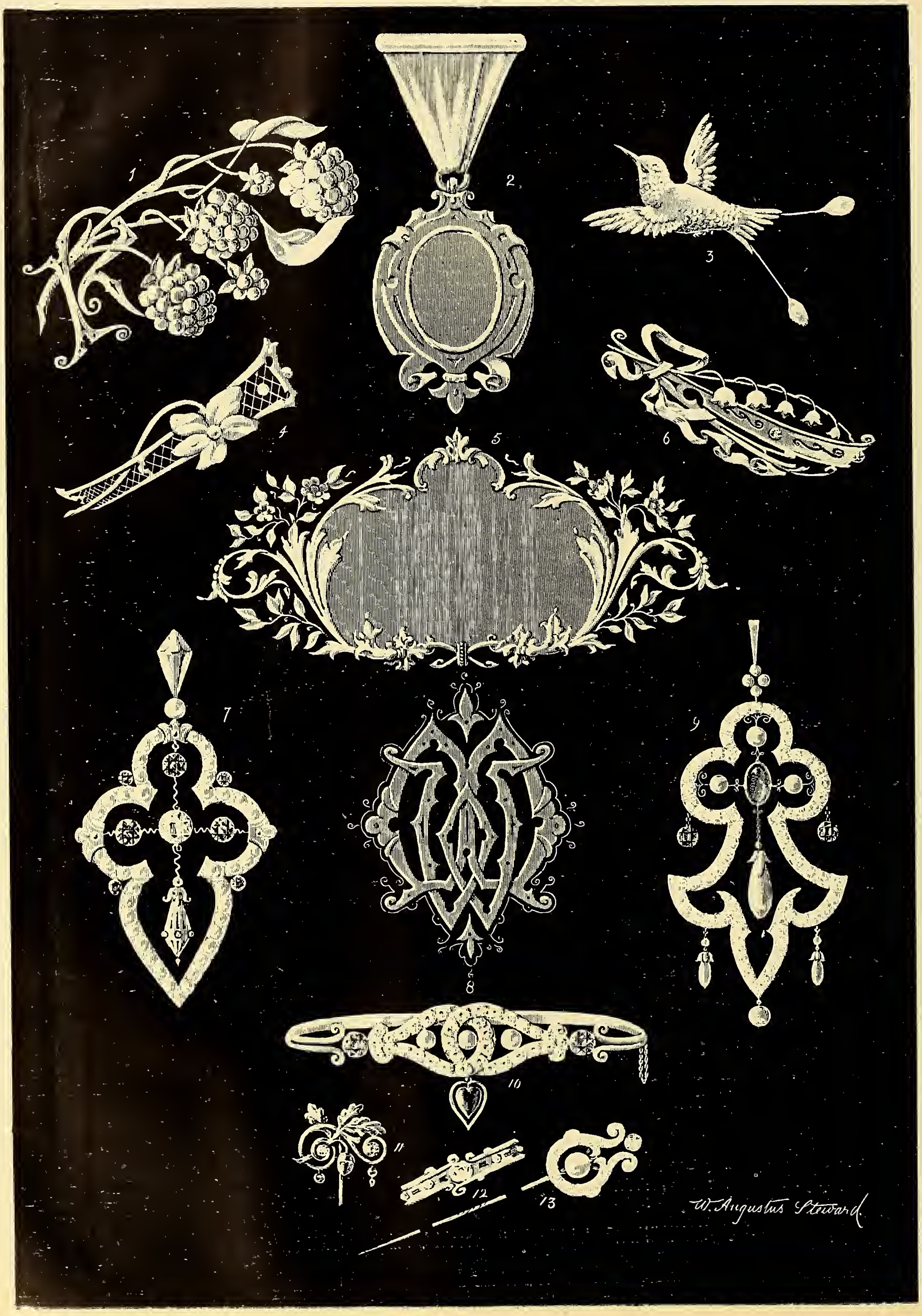
Watch & Clock Makers' Pension Society.

UNDER the presidency of Mr. Thomas Baxter, treasurer and V.P. of the Society, the half-yearly meeting of the subscribers, and election of a male annuitant, was held in the hall of the Horological Institute, Northampton-square, on May 21st. There were present among others supporting the Chairman, Messrs. A. Daldorph, P. Meek, E. Kelly, Ransted, J. Harwood, Milligan, Marshall, Corke, Lark, jun., F. Thoms, J. T. Newman, J. Whitmey, Jenkins, Kay, Melville, Wilkins, R. Blunden, Stansell, and J. Jansen, secretary.

The candidates before the meeting were Messrs. J. T. Lay, W. Plaskett, E. J. Glover, J. Hardman, J. T. Cundall, G. Makins, W. Theobald, and H. Lark. In the result Mr. Henry Lark was, by the president of the evening, declared elected to the benefits of the Institution.

The subsequent proceedings were invested with considerable interest, as a proposition carried at the last meeting, having for its object a reduction in the amount of the pensions to be granted was contested. It was urged by the movers that of the present insufficiency of funds, and that were the full amount of twenty guineas per annum to males, and fifteen guineas per annum to females, continued, the funds would soon be exhausted. But against this there was evidently a strong feeling that a breach of faith would be committed in decreasing the amounts, resulting in the withdrawal of subscribers, and thus that the benefits of an institution which had existed for seventy-seven years would be utterly lost to the necessitous members of the Trade. In the result, the proposed change was overwhelmingly defeated.

The finances of the company, it was shown by the Chairman, are in a healthy state. A handsome legacy of £1,125 10s. had been received from the executors of Miss Julia Collier, the Goldsmiths' Company had given £25, "and had thus shown their interest in the prosperity and welfare of the charity, of which they had been liberal supporters in the past." The handsome sum of £53 19s. 6d. had been collected by Mr. Walton, and they had a new source of income in the shape of collecting-boxes, inaugurated by Mr. R. Blunden.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W. Augustus Steward.

NOTES ABOUT TOWN

(By Our London Correspondent.)

From numerous answers that I have received during the month, in reply to my inquiries, I am led to the opinion that while trade is still bad, compared with what it has been in our most prosperous and flourishing times, it is, nevertheless, a little on the mend. This experience of numerous of the largest retailers is strengthened by the amount of business which has been done by the travellers of several wholesalers and manufacturers in their country journeys during the month. Of course we depend so largely, both indirectly and directly, upon the state of things abroad, that we cannot expect to be in a flourishing condition again until things are better in many foreign countries. It is not the wholesalers and manufacturers alone that suffer, although their loss in a falling-off of orders is a more obvious one; but the large retailers suffer almost as much in proportion, for owing to the bad state of many Stocks and Funds abroad and the small dividends at home, also consequent upon the bad times in many foreign countries, luxuries are necessarily curtailed.

That opals are still working their way to the premier position among the gems of the hour is every day more certain. There is scarcely a house in the trade which is not exhibiting these specialities, while one of the very first leading houses makes a show of nothing else along the whole of the front of one of its windows. The exquisite display to which I refer consists chiefly of the very tissuey veins of the precious dark variety, backed with a piece of dark matrix, and cut into the wings and bodies of insects, usually butterflies or bees, and less frequently dragon-flies. They vary in expanse of wing, from, say an inch to two and a-half inches, and have been brought into requisition by the present style of *chapeau*, which requires a pin to fasten it on. Hat-pins are, therefore, now an indispensable article in a good stock. It is also well to introduce a fashion which will work up the large quantity of these veins of opal that are to be found in the trade, for, although so beautiful in the extreme, they are, nevertheless, often too thin to cut *en cabochon*.

In contrast with the thinness of the opal vein in the above, I might call attention to the present style of cutting the more expensive and lovely examples of the gem of the gods into beads and ovals, or, as they are usually called, drops. Of course these become very expensive, and are mounted with fine diamonds in elaborate styles, and I have recently seen several charming necklaces of this description going into several hundreds of pounds. In these articles the opal really supplies the place of the pearl in the ordinary drop necklace, which gem it is in reality cut to imitate in shape.

Chrysoprase is certainly losing its hold daily in favor of the "Golden Cornelian," which, from its lovely soft hue and the charming way it blends with many things, may be expected to hold its own for some time. But, unfortunately, it is doomed to the same fate as the chrysoprase, by the ease with which it can be counterfeited, and worse than all, the state of our laws allow a man to mark up as golden cornelian, a piece of yellow glass. Not only does this prejudice the gem in the eyes of the public when they see the words applied to a shilling article, but in my opinion it is obtaining money by fraud, as obviously the customers would not buy it if they thought it was glass, but when they see it marked up "the gem of the hour," "the new golden cornelian," and with other equally misleading tickets, they think the article is what it is marked, and accordingly part with their money. I recently paid a visit to a fashionable sea-side town, and there saw these bits of practically worthless glass marked up "golden cornelian," not only in the smaller shops, but in some of the better ones. I went in and asked the proprietor why he marked the bits of glass golden cornelian, to which he first replied, "because they are golden cornelian"; but when I reminded him that he knew, or ought to know, they were not cornelian, he replied, "Well, others do it, and so shall I."

I wonder if the Association in the midst of the good work it is doing could be induced to take up this matter? I know they are very busy just now, and I am told they have been in conference with the Birmingham Association upon certain matters of trade interest. That is an excellent sign, the more unity the more strength. Amongst the vexed questions they are now investigating is the very important one of an *appro.* note form; I believe they have had quite a council of law upon this question, and have decided upon a course to be adopted by the members of the Association which will remedy the ills of the present system. I am very pleased to find they are also turning their attention to the license question, and will adopt a plan of action which will run these law-evaders and shop-keepers enemies to ground.

The lorgnette chain is still increasing. This, as your readers are aware, is composed of cylinders of gold about five-eighths in length in the new enamel, separated by pearl beads. No new colors appear to have been introduced, but the same cherry-red and dark greens and blues, which were so popular 140 years ago, still maintain their excellent claim. I am extremely glad to see this *renaissance* of the epoch I always considered the best period of jewelers' art. Now and then there has been an attempt to revive it. I remember that Messrs. Phillips made a necklace in this style for the '67 Paris Exhibition, which was subsequently bought for £150, and I believe, placed as a specimen example in the Birmingham Museum.

The new enamel jewelry is still gaining upon the public taste and favor, and amongst it all one sees numerous very lovely things. At times inspiration has been drawn from the old examples—beautiful illustrations of which we have in South Kensington Museum—at others we have new ideas, as there are now a number of articles in use then not known. Still one does not see those superb examples that were conceived of as specimens of the jewelers art, pure and simple, with no other object than the beautiful and artistic. Old specimens of this sort exist in every collection of importance, and are held up as examples of the excellent state of art at the particular period. But the dictum that a piece of jewelry should be first an article of use, then an ornament, interdicted the appearance of such masterpieces of the enamel, precious metal and gem worker. A favorite method of showing the new enamel jewelry adopted by a number of West End houses consists in making white satin mats, and laying the new specialities upon them; the white satin, or white leather, shows them up splendidly.

I have recently seen exposed a number of very nice sun-stones. Whether this will ever become as popular as the moon-stone no one can say. It can never become so common, as, practically, there is but one locality where this gem is found, and so its supply must necessarily be limited. The real gem itself, when properly cut and of good quality, is a very lovely stone, and although it is imitated by avanturine glass, still the latter is so entirely different in its appearance, and so hard and unpleasant compared to the soft, irridescent colors and sheen of the sun-stone, that I think the imitation will only serve to emphasise the inimitable beauties of the real gem.

WHAT a number of charming little *bonbonnières* are now to be seen. Not only do the patterns in these things vary almost daily, but the styles also. To attempt to describe all one sees in this line would, of course, be a rather long and tedious task, and would only be equalled in difficulty in deciding upon which one liked the best. There is one style that recalls the days gone by, in which agates of various descriptions are being employed, both as inlays in geometric patterns, and as simple medallions and eschutcheons of moss agate or dendrites. Most of these are mounted in silver, but the finer specimens of the latter stones,and several other fancy minerals are adorned with gold.

AMONGST other silver novelties seen about, one might refer to some very handsome ash-trays. They take the form of historic faces surrounded by a broad brim of the time of Shakespeare or Charles II. The head is laid face upwards, and by slight compression—which is by no means objectionable—the thing forms quite a nice, though somewhat irregularly-shaped tray.

AMONG cigar-lighters, and as well as in articles of jewelry, hearts with an arrow passing through them are now to the front. In the former the cardiac organ is somewhat flattened from side to side, and stood upon a nicely chased or fluted foot; the upper part of the sanguinary pump is slightly conventionalised, and the large blood vessels replaced by a tuft, which forms the wick. The dart, which apparently passes obliquely through the organ, is really a sponge-tipped lighter which reposes in the spirit-well.

AMONGST the beautiful little five o'clocks that have recently appeared, one of exquisite delicacy and beauty is constructed of white enamel, and deep burnished gold inside; the pattern is quite plain, but the effect is simply charming.

I AM told that the approaching marriage of the Czarevitch has caused a little move in trade, and that several exceptionally fine pieces of jewelry have been made, and large and important stones changed hands, such as might be expected upon so auspicious an occasion. But the number of articles required on such an occasion is necessarily small, although exceptionally high in price, extra fine in quality, or unusually large in size.

I AM obliged to reiterate a remark of a former occasion in regard to tortoise-shell, as the quantity and size of the goods marked up under this name really grows greater; solid articles of a quarter-of-an-inch thick or even more, and a foot or eighteen inches long may frequently, even in first-class houses, be seen marked up "real tortoise-shell." The question which now suggests itself to my mind is whether these firms really know what tortoise-shell is, and whether they are not buying some imitation of the material for the genuine article.

THOSE of your readers who cultivate a cup trade had better turn their attention to the manner in which the American game of base-ball is growing in this country. Recently I saw several exceptionally fine silver trophies for the popular game, and no doubt base-ball will be largely adopted, as wherever it is introduced it always becomes popular, and calls for prizes and trophies.

BIRMINGHAM NOTES

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)*

THE very slight movement in business which I reported for April soon died away, and with the prospect of the Whitsuntide holidays before them, factors once more fell back on the policy of buying only what was compulsory. Consequently the trade done during the month has again been below the average. Both before and after the holiday it was quite depressing to see the long procession of travellers calling on the various houses, and to note the regularity with which they departed without even a chance of showing. Most houses were closed both Whit Monday and Tuesday, and many also found it convenient to close on the Wednesday afternoon. Nor were these second and third rate firms; but first-class houses, which a couple of years back would have found it impossible to lose a third of the week without suffering much loss and inconvenience. Unless Trade revives considerably it will soon be useless for makers to open their factories at all in Bank Holiday weeks. Even now many take advantage of the break to stop manufacturing for a full week, and others simply get enough men back to cope with the jobs and any small orders which may come in for odd things. The report that earrings are to be fashionable again will be welcome to most jewelers. It is several years since there has been a regular sale for anything of the kind, except perhaps a pair of diamond single stones occasionally. After all there is no reason why ladies should *not* wear earrings. A good deal of damage was done to this branch of the trade in the past by likening the earring to the nose ring of the barbarian "masher," but to my mind this seems to be going a little too far in the way of odious comparison.

THE bankrupt, Frederick Joseph Carter, late of Vyse-street, continues to humbug the officials in the most shameless manner, and at the present rate of progress the examination will never be concluded. So far the report that he would be prosecuted has not received official confirmation, but, taking all the circumstances into consideration, one can hardly think it possible that he will be allowed to escape. If a man of this stamp is not to be punished, then the Bankruptcy Acts are so much waste-paper, and the sooner they are wiped off the Statute-book the better.

THE progress of the charge against Mills, of Key Hill Drive, for fraudulently placing the Hall Mark on inferior quality goods will be watched with considerable interest by local manufacturers. Without reference to this case, I may say that large quantities of goods are now placed on the market at prices which *cannot possibly pay*, and the suggestion has more than once been made that certain outside makers "do their own Hall-marking." Such remarks are, no doubt, intended as a sort of melancholy joke, but it is quite possible that they contain a certain backbone of truth. When a buyer, or maker for that matter, sees the Hall Mark on an article, he at once, and very properly, takes it as an absolute guarantee of the quality, and as long as the price left a margin over the cost of the gold, hardly anyone would trouble to get an article assayed. Here, then, we see an easy method of dishonest competition open to any unscrupulous manufacturer and, barring some unforeseen accident, the chances of detection *are practically nil.* Almost the only way in which such a fraud could be discovered would be when the article got into the hands of some expert workman for repair. Otherwise, the only chance for the buyer is to have a sample of his cheap lines assayed occasionally. If this course were taken, or *supposed* to be taken, swindles of this character would soon die out. Unfortunately *price* is the principal question with 90 per cent. of the buyers, and as long as they have a line on which the *profit* is good, they are not critical as to the *quality*. If anything turns out wrong, why, they know nothing about it.

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* We must not be understood as endorsing all, nor necessarily any, of the opinions of our correspondent, who writes on his own responsibility.

Mr. F. Saxelby succeeds Mr. Goode as representative of Messrs. John Allday and Son, Warstone-lane.

I hear that arrangements are completed under which Messrs. A. Appleby and Co., Limited, Vyse-street, will take over the old-established diamond-mounting business of Messrs. W. Spencer and Sons, Regent-place. The amalgamation will doubtless be beneficial to all concerned. Competition during the last few years has become so keen, and in many instances so disastrous, that one cannot but welcome any changes which tend to diminish it even in the slightest degree.

The action of the committee of the Birmingham Jewelers' Association in reference to insurance against burglary is very necessary, and by no means premature. The solicitor of the association is now prepared to scrutinise the terms offered to members, and I have no doubt they will take advantage of the arrangement which *must* be beneficial to them. Judging from the various agreements which I have had the opportunity of reading, the insurer practically pays his money for nothing. The majority of them are so skilfully drawn up that the liability of the companies is almost *nil,* and it seems almost impossible to fulfil the varied particulars necessary to establish a claim, however moderate and just. Insurers should see that the terms agreed to leave a respectable margin in their favor otherwise a policy is no use to them whatever. I have in my mind a case of burglary in which a small safe, containing several boxes of watches and a lot of jobs and odd orders, was broken into and cleared out. The first demand of the company was for a complete list of the articles missing, their estimated value, and the numbers of the watches. Fortunately, the loser was able to furnish the information required, but he was met with all kinds of evasions and impossible requirements, until, becoming disgusted with the whole business, he threatened legal proceedings unless the matter was settled immediately. Then the company paid. But if the insurer in this case had been a small man, it seems clear he would have had to be contented with much less than the real amount of his loss, or else engaged in a costly, and possibly ruinous, law-suit.

The whole question of insurance of this kind is hedged round with difficulties. Take, for instance, the case of a traveller out with two or three bags of stock, one of which is stolen, how could he furnish *an exact list* of what it contained? A factor *might* be able to ascertain the contents pretty closely, but I venture to doubt if a single manufacturer could come within pounds of the value. And apparently the companies would not pay unless the contents were proved to their satisfaction. I may also point out that the premiums charged are far too high, even if the insured were certain of getting his claim met, which seems somewhat more than questionable.

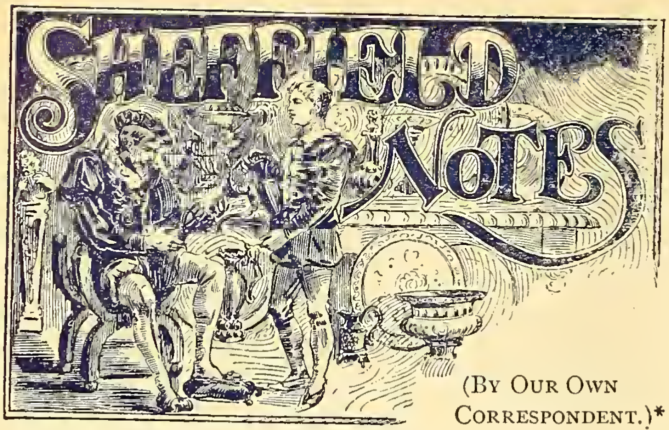
There is another aspect of the insurance question which is of importance to factors. I am given to understand that insuring a rail parcel below the invoice value relieves the railway company from all liability in case of loss. The reason is that when insuring you declare the value to be so much, and, whether more or less, you have made a *false declaration*, and so stand to get no compensation in case of loss. If this is *law* it certainly is not *justice*, as if a sender likes to take a certain amount of the risk himself it is no business of the railway company, who would only be asked to refund to the amount it had been paid for. On the other hand the trade ought to know definitely if it *is* law, for in that case most of the money spent on insuring parcels is thrown away. I question if one parcel per cent. is insured at its invoiced value, and many houses simply insure for £25 on the ground that the same care is taken as if two or three times the amount were paid.

I refrained from recording the details of the Lost Diamond Romance, noticed on page 686 of The Watchmaker, in my last month's "Notes," as it hardly seemed to be genuine. It is, however, another illustration of the proverb, that "Truth is stranger than fiction." The story is perfectly true, and the real owner having demonstrated his right, has had the stone duly returned to him.

Members of the wholesale trade here express considerable satisfaction at the exposure of unlicensed dealing in watches and jewelery, which has been undertaken by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild and Mr. Labouchere. The properly licensed jeweler has not only to contend with competition from thousands of unlicensed "agents," who frequently possess special facilities for planting inferior goods on unwilling customers, but he has also to face opposition from so-called stores and general dealers, who also, as a rule, omit the preliminary of taking out a license. Individually, no doubt, these people do not sell much, but the general total must still be something enormous. Moreover, if certain trades are to be specially taxed under cover of licenses, it is only fair that such trades should be protected from outside opposition.

I notice that some of your readers are interested in the question of apprentices. It may be news to them to learn that amongst manufacturing jewelers in Birmingham the system of apprenticing boys to the board is almost extinct, and it must be many years since any apprentice paid a premium for the privilege of being taught. The fact is, the apprenticeship system was the last relic of the mediæval trade restrictions, and entirely opposed to modern ideas of business. It sounds very plausible to argue that it is worth a certain amount of money to teach a boy a trade. So it is, and the learner practically does pay a premium by reason of his wages for a number of years being somewhat less than his actual value. Whatever may be the merits or demerits of technical education, there is no doubt that for the future it will be the only way for the young craftsman to learn a considerable portion of his trade. Under the present system there is no inducement to teach a boy more than a certain amount of his trade, and, unless he chances to be employed in an exceptionally good shop, he will never become more than an average workman without the aid of the technical classes. These will, at any rate, give him the principles and practice, to some extent, of those branches of his craft which otherwise he would remain ignorant of, and so open a way to better-remunerated work.

Keep it up!—Sarasate has had thirty-two watches given him by different persons, most of them being in the shape of a violin.



(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)*

IN the year 1884, Messrs. James Dixon and Sons, of Cornish-place, received an order to supply 6,090 German silver spoons for Lord Wolsley's army then operating in Egypt. Except for the fact that the order was executed in the short space of three days, the affair was an ordinary business transaction which would probably have been forgotten but for a little romance attaching to two of the spoons in question. Among the effects of two dervishes slain at the battle of Toski during the Soudanese campaign, were two spoons bearing the well-known trade-mark (a trumpet) of the Cornish-place firm. The articles had evidently been looted from the remains of two English soldiers who had met their fate in one of the sanguinary battles of the war. They were taken possession of by Lieutenant d'Aguilar of the 17th Lancers, and subsequently taken by him to the London premises of the firm. On learning that Mr. James Willis Dixon, now the head of firm, was a cousin of the wife of Hicks Pasha, who lost his life in the Soudan, the officer forwarded the spoons to him. They are now at his residence at Hillsborough, each spoon having had engraved upon it an inscription embodying the above facts.

IN connection with Messrs. James Dixon and Sons may also be noted a handsome bowl of solid silver, which has just been completed by that firm for presentation to Lord Milton. The bowl has been subscribed for by the followers of Earl Fitzwilliam's hounds, and is an addition to the presentations mentioned last month in connection with Lord Milton's coming of age festivities. It weighs 110 ounces, holds 22 pints, is 9½ inches in height, and 13½ inches in diameter, and stands on an ebony plinth 6 inches high. It has an extremely fine appearance. The foot of the bowl is artistically treated with acanthus decoration, the leaves broadening towards the base. The lower part of the centre of the bowl contains a series of broad-twisted flutes, alternately plain and ornamental, the decorated flutes terminating at the top in a shell-like scroll. The top is beautifully treated in the Renaissance style. The acanthus is again brought out in *repoussé*, and flowers appear here and there to add to the effect. On either side of the bowl, forming handles, is the head of a hound. There are two shields, one bearing the arms and crest of Viscount Milton and the other the inscription. Each of the shields is surmounted by a fox's head and two brushes. Upon the dexter side of the shield that bears the inscription is embossed the figure of a huntsman blowing his horn; on the sinister side appears a hunter, well mounted, in the act of "taking a fence." A fox is discovered making for cover, closely pressed by two hounds. All the figures are splendidly marked. The bowl is the work of Mr. Marshall, a student at the Sheffield School of Art, who designed and modelled the Ascot Cup for this year, and who has attained distinction in his art.

THE meeting at the residence of Mr. Charles Green, mentioned last month, has culminated in the formation of the "Sheffield Art Crafts' Guild." There is an old-world flavor about the name which seems to indicate the idea its promoters had in view better than any detailed description. The Guild is not an ordinary trades' union, although, of course, the interests of its members is one of the objects aimed at. A great deal more was said at the inaugural meeting about the steps to be taken to improve the quality of art-metal work than about the remuneration of the workers. A code of rules has been drawn up and adopted, and the design for the badge chosen, the latter being the work of Mr. Charles W. Crowder, a promising student of the School of Art. It has also been decided to hold an exhibition in October next.

ANOTHER old-established concern in the Britannia-metal and electro-plate trade is in the market. The firm of Shaw and Fisher, in Suffolk-road, has scarcely seen its 60th birthday, but in the course of a few weeks it will be brought to the hammer "in two lots." The first comprises the buildings, and the second the "good-will," trade mark, registered designs, &c. There has been neither Shaw nor Fisher in the concern for many a year. The late head of the firm was Mr. C. Hall, whose death was noticed in these notes last year. Mr. Hall's son has decided not to continue the business, hence the sale. For some time past the business has been offered for sale as a going concern, but in these times such intangible things as good-will do not bring very much in the market. A rumour got abroad in the town that Messrs. John Round and Son were about to purchase, but the only foundation for this somewhat unlikely story appears to have been the fact that Mr. Ridge and Mr. Sawson paid a visit to the works by invitation. The works and business will be offered for sale at the auction rooms of Messrs. Nicholson, Greaves and Barber, early in June.

THE recent returns from the various Assay Offices throughout the country seem to point to the conclusion that the silver trade is gravitating more and more towards Sheffield as a centre. This process has, however, been going on for years past and has been perfectly obvious to all connected with the Trade. It is the relatively larger output of sterling silver goods, as compared with electroplate, which makes the Assay Office figures tell so much more plainly than formerly.

BY the way, this increased output of silver is not by any means looked upon as a blessing by manufacturers. It will be remembered that while Sheffield Silversmiths strenuously opposed the proposal to abolish Hall-marking, they viewed the suggested removal of the duty on silver with indifference. If they expected no benefit from the proposed measure, they certainly anticipated no evil results. There are those, however, who now contend that the volume of trade is positively less in consequence of the increased use of silver as compared with electro-plate. They maintain that the public are spending the same amount as formerly but are buying fewer articles—those articles being by preference silver. It will, of course, be impossible to verify this view of the matter until the present depression in trade is removed. Moreover, the price of silver will, some day or other, certainly go up, although it has probably not yet reached the bottom. When this occurs something approaching the old order of things will be restored—a consummation devoutly to be wished by all interested in our huge manufacturing establishments.

IN the meantime the state of trade remains in *statu quo*. No one likes to be thought worse off than his neighbours, consequently the full extent of the depression is not proclaimed upon the house-tops. For all that, trade is bad—

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there is no manner of doubt about it. Occasionally wild rumours are encountered floating about to the effect that some firm, whose identity always eludes the closest investigation, has obtained an order which is going to keep all hands employed for six weeks. As a rule, such orders as do come to hand have to be executed at once. Shopkeepers are inexorable on this point. Manufacturers, therefore, find it necessary to keep their stocks full, and when the demand for sterling silver articles is considered, it will be seen that this is somewhat of a tax upon their resources.

Diamond Field Notes.

(By Vaalite.)

Kimberley, April 23rd, 1894.

As big stones and big sales naturally interest your readers, I will first mention that at the New Jagersfontein, the womb of so many adamantine giants, a man named Stevens last month found a stone weighing 231 carats. He has been awarded £80. Quite recently the same mine yielded a gem of beautiful shape and color, weighing 213 carats, another being 131 carats, and yet another weighing $97\frac{1}{2}$. The Jagersfontein at present employs some 2,300 Kaffirs and about 200 whites. The output of this mine is steadily increasing, and now stands at $12\frac{3}{4}$ carats per hundred loads. During the year ending February 28th, the mines yielded $186{,}152\frac{1}{2}$ carats of diamonds, which were valued at £384,484, an average of 41s. 4d. per carat.

There is an agitation going on against the compound system, but out here it is the greatest blessing ever introduced into the Diamond Trade; in fact, working under any other system is absolutely impossible. I hope full inquiries by Government will be made, as it will show how well these black boys are cared for and kept out of temptation, and how often they are made good men of. The Jagersfontein compound is twelve miles in circumference, so that it is no prison. It is enclosed by an eight-feet fence. The agitators have also been successful in the De Beers compound, but, of course, they are only such people as want to get hold of the "boys" to fleece them, or to induce them into illicit trading.

A mine which is at present attracting a great deal of attention is Koffyfontein. This is now practically in the hands of two syndicates, one the Armstrong—of Premier fame—and the other the Mosely. There are now some 1,200 claims, and with the continual development that is going on, it is expected this number will be raised to 1,450. This latter gentleman has been pushing on immensely as I have from time to time sent you word. There is now an inclined shaft at 48deg., 18ft. by 6ft., which has reached a depth of 630ft., from which several drives have been made, that at 150ft. going 560ft. into the adjoining material. There is a second level at 230ft., and another at 400ft., all of which, including the shaft, are in the blue. There are two skip compartments, one ladder way, and a pump way, in fact it is contemplated that shortly they will be able to haul and wash 6,000 loads a day. At present there are about 300 "boys" and 50 Europeans at work for this syndicate. Armstrong is also developing rapidly and recently found a 56, 31, and $19\frac{3}{4}$ carat respectively. When the new gears are erected they anticipate being able to wash 1,200 loads per day.

There is a great deal of interest centring around Du Toit pan mine at the present moment. First, I might remark that the indomitable perseverance of the New Gordon has at last been rewarded, and the unwatering of the mine is now quite within sight, and will be an accomplished fact by the time that some of your subscribers are reading this account. There have been several new syndicates formed lately for the working of this mine, and the Bulfontein, which, as readers are aware, lies only slightly to the south-west, the Wesselton lying a little to the south, the three mines thus lie quite close together, and apart from the other two large mines. But the most suggestive revelation is that made by Lippiat's extension, who, during the last two months have been finding well until they have worked quite through the road separating Du Toit and Wesselton, thus showing that the two great mines in reality are one. Probably further development on the west may prove that all three are one, or at most that Bulfontein is an apophesis from the Dutoit-Premier. I suppose, Mr. Editor, that is according to the laws of scientific nomenclature, or would it be Dutoito-Premier? The laws of priority would, I suppose, place Dutoit's, or some part of the word, first. Other indications of the extension of the diamond-bearing ground, and the possible connection orthese mines were revealed in the making of a divisional Council road between Benauwdheadsfontein—the estate on which the Premier is situated—and the property of London and South African Exploration Co.'s when diamondiferous ground similar to that within the proclaimed area of the Premier mine was discovered. Should all three mines be found to be one, we can never speak of the Dutoit-Bulfontein-Premier, so that I should propose to call them the trinity or triplet mine; but should the suspicious pan turn out a fourth branch, my proposed name would not be sufficiently comprehensive.

Since the unsettled state of limitation of output at De Beer's, and the alteration of trade, consequent upon the development of Johannesberg, there has been a large number of men turn their attention to the river-diggings, and some of them have achieved good success, but of all the precarious existences in life, that of the river-diamond digger is the most so.

Southmolton, North Devon. — A large clock has just been erected in the parish church through the munificence of A. F. Terrell Shapland, Esq. It shews the time on a 7ft. dial, chimes the Cambridge quarters upon four bells, and strikes the hours. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, have carried out the work.

The French Watch Trade.—From the reports of the Chamber of Commerce at Besançon, it appears that the French watch trade is not in so bad a condition as one might imagine. The number of watches turned out is given as 480,000, of which 160,000 were of gold, and 320,000 of silver. The average value of a gold watch is estimated at 85fr., and of a silver one 25fr. The importation of foreign watches is about 100,000. The first commencement of the Besançon industry, dates from 1793, when 411 skilled artisans from Neuchatel were expelled from Switzerland, and settled in the Department of Doubs. At the present time the number of employers is 200, while about 40,000 persons find occupation in watchmaking, either in the shops or at their own homes.

A Grand Prize List.—Of all the prize lists issued by the Trade possibly that just sent out by Fattorini and Sons, Kirkgate, Bradford, Yorks, will appeal to many as the most imposing, owing to its great size. It certainly will claim many advantages over others of smaller dimensions where it has to be layed open before a committee, as it would half cover a small table. On the outside is a capital view of Kirkgate, of which any Yorkshireman, or, indeed, Englishman, might be proud, calling to mind some of our finest specimens of street architecture. Prominent in the foreground are the handsome premises of Fattorini and Sons, and on the back a corner view of the premises is shown. The catalogue is an excellent example of what can be got for the purpose of securing orders for prizes of all descriptions.

Non-Magnetic Watches.—In these days of electric railways, which are likely to increase rapidly, electric lifts, and electricity everywhere, the question of anti-magnetic watches is being raised by the Public Press all over the world, and daily the demand for the electrically invincible watches is growing, and the article itself is gradually ousting the magnetizable. Already there are one or two firms passing Swiss watches through the anti-magnetic test in astonishing numbers. The Americans, too, are pushing their products upon our markets in every direction, with all the business tact of the modern big business builder. Against neither of these do we wish to say a word. We should like, however, to call the attention of the *English* trade to what the others are doing, and how, in our lack of enterprise and unity, we are allowing ourselves to be ousted even in our own markets. We are possessed of facts, which we think it is as well in the interests of the English Trade, not to publish, but we are willing to supply them to our own manufacturers.

ROYAL GREENWICH OBSERVATORY TRIALS.

Results of the Annual Trial of Chronometers at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, from July 1, 1893, to January 20, 1894 (29 weeks).

Ord. of Merit.	Name.	No.	Diff'r'nce between greatest and least weekly rates. *a.*	Greatest diff'rence between one week and the next. *b.*	Trial Number. $a + 2b$.
1	Isaac	1933	8·5	3·3	15·1
2	Uhrig	585	10·2	2·9	16·0
3	Webb	5655	9·6	4·4	18·4
4	Ramsay	6567	9·3	5·3	19·9
5	Penlington	2247	10·7	8·1	26·9
6	Keys	956	13·1	7·1	27·3
7	Mercer	5454	12·3	7·6	27·5
8	Isaac	1923	12·8	7·5	27·8
9	Pyott	999	9·9	9·1	28·1
10	Uhrig	599	20·4	5·3	31·0
11	Jefferson	942	19·6	7·1	33·8
12	Usher and Cole	6586	17·3	8·4	34·1
13	Uhrig	600	20·7	7·3	35·3
14	Isaac	1917	14·5	10·5	35·5
15	Weir	^{5}/3963	20·9	7.6	36·1
16	Penlington	2248	15·8	11·5	38·8
17	Keys	954	21·5	8·7	38·9
18	Mercer	5432	17·6	11·0	39·6
19	Webb	5660	21·6	9·1	39·8
20	Johannsen and Co.	4315	22·4	9·2	40·8
21	Pyott	916	23·3	9·1	41·5
22	Clerke	1731	19·3	11·4	42·1
23	Hammersley	^{1}/4059	29·2	7·5	44·2
24	M. F. Dent	31048	19·8	12·6	45·0
25	M. F. Dent	31047	21·7	13·0	47·7
26	Johannsen and Co.	4311	17·2	15·5	48·2
27	Johannsen and Co.	4325	16·3	16·2	48·7
28	Webb	5659	24·9	12·5	49·9
29	Haswell and Sons	2923	23·2	16·4	56·0
30	Johannsen and Co.	4266	33·3	12·7	58·7
31	Clerke	1725	26·0	17·0	60·0
32	Gardner	^{5}/4007	31·0	15·7	62·4
33	Frodsham and Keen	3835	31·1	17·7	66·5
34	Schoof	6059	33·2	17·3	67·8
35	Weir	^{5}/3947	33·4	19·0	71·4
36	Frodsham and Keen	3836	43·4	16·3	76·0
37	Haswell and Sons	2919	29·6	26·4	82·4
38	Hammersley	^{1}/4008	35·5	24·2	83·9
39	Haswell and Sons	2921	49·4	24·6	98·6
40	Clerke	1733	37·1	30·8	98·7
41	Schoof	6065	38·5	31·3	101·1
42	Uhrig	573	49·0	30·2	109·4

Results of the Annual Trial of Deck Watches at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, from October 21, 1893, to February 3, 1894 (15 weeks).

CLASS B.

Order of Merit.	Name.	No.	Diff'ce betw'n gr'test and least weekly rates. D'l up. *a.*	Gr'test diff'ce betw'n one week and th' next. D'l up. *b*	Diff'ce of weekly rates. Pendant up Dial up. *c.*	Trial Number. $a + 2b + \frac{c}{2}$
			s.	s.	s.	
1	Usher and Cole	3942	21·7	9·1	— 9·9	44·0
2	Buckney	30736	16·3	12·3	...16·6	49·2
3	Br'b'k, A'k'ns and M're	74249	20·6	11·8	—37·9	63·2
4	Buckney	30740	24·8	17·1	...23·7	70·9
5	Kendal and Dent	13930	33·2	17·0	...13·4	73·9
6	Buckney	30734	42·0	26·4	— 1·7	95·7
7	Buckney	30738	46·5	22·4	—11·4	97·0
8	Buckney	30745	37·6	28·9	— 8·2	99·5
9	Buckney	30735	43·3	18·7	—39·6	100·5
10	Buckney	30737	56·9	19·8	—10·1	101·6
11	Buckney	30744	53·5	18·0	...41·4	110·2
12	Kendal and Dent	16396	44·7	29·9	...14·2	111·6
13	Buckney	30743	39·1	24·7	...54·0	115·5
14	Usher and Cole	3949	45·0	34·6	... 9·9	119·2
15	Kendal and Dent	20689	64·7	25·6	—18·8	125·3
16	Buckney	30742	69·9	32·2	— 5·6	137·1
17	Buckney	30741	47·7	38·1	—28·8	138·0
18	Buckney	30746	61·7	41·3	...48·9	168·8
19	Usher and Cole	3947	103·8	29·5	—18·1	171·9
20	Br'b'k, A'k'ns and M're	74251	61·7	45·0	...60·4	181·9
21	Kendal and Dent	13929	67·6	48·6	—56·9	193·3
22	Buckney	30739	95·0	79·3	...14·9	261·1
23	Usher and Cole	3948	189·5	49·5	...27·2	302·1
24	J. Poole and Co.	6302	169.1	141·4	—21·2	462·5

Results of the Trial of Deck Watches at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, from October 21, 1893, to February 10, 1894 (16 weeks).

CLASS A.

Order of Merit.	Name.	No.	Difference betw'n greatest and least weekly rates. D'l up. *a.*	Gr'test difference betw'n one week and th' next. D'l up. *b.*	Difference of Weekly Rates. Pendant up. Dial up. *c.*	Difference of Weekly Rates. Pendant right. Dial up. *d*	Difference of Weekly Rates. Pendant left. Dial up. *e.*	Trial Number $a + 2b + \frac{1}{2}\left(c + \frac{d+e}{3}\right)$
			s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
1	Buckney	30785	7·6	4·2	— 10·3	— 12·2	— 33·2	28·7
2	Johannsen and Co.	6488	14·1	8·3	— 5·2	— 5·6	— 11·7	36·2
3	Bolton Smith	163	16·1	11·1	— 7·9	— 1·6	... 10·5	44·3
4	Buckney	30788	12·7	7·8	... 11·3	— 45·0	— 33·6	47·1
5	Johannsen and Co.	6475	23·5	8·3	— 2·9	... 29·6	— 3·3	47·1
6	J. White and Son	34591	18·8	9·5	— 12·1	— 42·7	— 7·3	52·2
7	Isaac	10854	17·4	13·0	... 15·4	— 9·5	... 13·6	55·0
8	Buckney	30784	18·5	9·5	— 9·4	— 23·3	— 65·5	57·0
9	Little and Co.	9271	21·4	12·0	— 20·0	— 56·7	... 15·4	67·4
10	Holland	3747	27·0	8·3	— 7·6	— 75·0	— 47·5	67·8
11	Webb	9264	21·6	16·8	... 9·9	— 19·3	... 33·7	69·0
12	J. White and Son	34613	34·4	13·7	— 11·0	... 9·4	— 26·8	73·3
13	Hall	2664	29·3	20·3	— 4·9	— 5·3	— 0·8	73·4
14	Johannsen and Co.	6476	20·8	12·4	... 23·3	... 46·6	— 54·9	74·2
15	Buckney	30789	36·3	7·7	— 11·1	— 59·6	— 44·0	74·5
16	Holland	3769	33·9	15·2	... 6·1	— 6·3	... 42·5	75·5
17	Johannsen and Co.	6477	28·8	19·9	... 10·0	— 12·0	... 6·9	76·8
18	Webb	9265	27·8	13·1	... 25·2	... 18·8	... 47·8	77·7
19	Keys	15649	24·3	18·5	... 25·7	... 15·1	— 32·5	82·1
20	Johannsen and Co.	6490	40.3	15·7	... 1·5	... 39·8	... 18·8	82·2
21	Usher and Cole	28823	21·6	20·8	... 26·6	— 31·6	— 12·7	83·9
22	Buckney	30787	27·3	20·1	... 17·9	— 24·4	— 44·0	87·9
23	J. White and Son	34612	32·1	23·1	— 10·0	— 19·1	— 11·4	88·4
24	Br'kb'nk, Atkins and M're	74287	20·9	17·2	... 37·5	— 29·4	— 62·1	89·3
25	Buckney	1647	24·0	22·8	... 20·9	— 23·4	... 36·6	90·1
26	Johannsen and Co.	6485	25·2	15·9	... 35·9	... 31·1	... 62·6	90·6
27	Burton	2668	42·2	19·2	— 3·8	... 41·4	— 8·7	90·9
28	Buckney	30786	34·3	12·4	— 30·1	— 91·6	— 16·7	92·3
29	Johannsen and Co.	6486	31·5	11·3	... 53·6	... 44·7	... 43·8	95·7
30	Webb	9267	41·5	23·1	— 11·5	— 14·1	... 31·7	101·1
31	S. Smith and Son	13948	44·2	20·6	... 9·9	— 55·3	— 21·0	103·1
32	Usher and Cole	28824	31·9	26·4	— 4·5	... 15·1	— 85·0	103·7
33	M. F. Dent	31045	36·5	6·2	— 87·7	... 16·6	— 52·9	104·4
34	Johannsen and Co.	6491	43·7	24·7	... 20·5	... 11·3	... 6·1	106·3
35	C. Frodsham and Co.	08139	27·1	25·8	... 27·5	— 79·8	... 6·0	106·8
36	Webb	9268	52·5	18·0	— 9·0	— 37·7	... 49·6	107·6
37	Hammersley	^{1}/4028	41·8	20·9	— 26·9	— 27·7	... 49·8	110·0
38	Player	25454	51·7	23·8	— 3·1	— 51·5	— 17·7	112·4
39	Hammersley	^{1}/4032	20·3	10·9	—108·4	— 99·2	— 0·8	113·0
40	Johannsen and Co.	6489	38·5	29·4	... 26·0	... 3·8	... 14·0	113·3
41	Br'kb'nk, Atkins and M're	74451	34.6	33·0	— 11·3	— 14·0	— 28·5	113·4
42	Johannsen and Co.	6487	41·1	29·9	... 20·0	... 12·0	... 5·9	113·9
43	Carley and Co.	49360	42·1	28·1	... 9·9	... 21·3	... 48·1	114·8
44	Br'kb'nk, Atkins and M're	81776	56·5	23·5	... 18·6	... 8·6	— 21·5	117·8
45	Little and Co.	9272	81·0	15·2	... 6·6	— 15·2	... 23·5	121·2
46	S. Smith and Son	13953	36·3	30·3	— 34·7	... 28·4	... 14·4	121·4
47	Weir	51982	59·3	24·5	... 7·6	— 11·3	... 46·1	121·7
48	S. Smith and Son	13952	38·3	34·7	... 14·1	... 11·9	— 32·2	122·1
49	Carley and Co.	49361	65·5	20·5	... 30·4	— 6·4	... 9·0	124·3
50	S. Smith and Son	13950	38·8	37·4	... 22·9	— 3·9	... 33·2	131·3
51	Johannsen and Co.	6460	40·6	40·6	... 15·2	— 7·3	... 7·2	131·8
52	Isaac	10858	44·4	36·4	... 25·9	— 7·3	— 4·0	132·1
53	Hammersley	^{1}/4033	50·3	29·5	... 11·1	...110·7	— 0·6	133·4
54	Carley and Co.	48531	53·0	38·1	— 7·5	— 12·8	... 9·1	136·6
55	Br'kbn'k, Atkins and M're	74449	37·1	34·2	... 58·0	— 3·8	— 22·9	139·0
56	M. F. Dent	31046	44·9	18·1	... 75·3	— 27·4	... 98·2	139·7
57	Hammersley	^{1}/4031	42·2	28·2	... 48·7	... 53·8	... 47·5	139·9
58	J. Poole and Co.	6498	31·3	28·9	... 60·6	... 53·1	— 85·5	142·5
59	Kendal and Dent	12513	35·2	35·2	... 8·6	— 88·8	—126·4	145·8
60	Ballantyne	22678	32·2	23·7	— 51·3	— 99·8	—160·5	148·7
61	Buckney	30790	61·5	36·5	— 7·3	— 72·9	... 1·1	150·5
62	Keys	15651	55·6	47·6	... 3·3	... 4·1	... 11·5	155·0
63	S. Smith and Son	13949	52·7	52·7	... 17·6	— 24·7	— 12·4	173·1
64	Keys	15653	62·9	55·4	— 3·2	— 36·9	— 16·1	184·1
65	Player	25453	60·0	60·0	... 17·6	— 18·2	— 6·3	192·9
66	Keys	15648	53·8	51·2	— 24·1	—102·3	— 51·7	193·9
67	Hammersley	^{1}/4030	111·7	41·5	— 22·2	... 10·6	— 59·4	217·5
68	Ballantyne	22680	63·8	49·2	... 34·1	—145·6	—107·1	221·4
69	Keys	15652	67·1	67·1	— 16·5	—148·3	... 47·9	242·3
70	Player	17288	102·7	73·2	— 35·7	... 4·6	— 49·2	275·9
71	Keys	15647	92·4	84·2	— 21·3	— 23·5	— 81·9	289·0
72	C. Frodsham and Co.	08140	87·0	81·4	... 57·2	... 45·6	... 28·6	290·8
73	S. Smith and Co.	13951	94·5	94·5	— 22·3	... 7·6	... 0·3	296·0
74	Hammersley	^{1}/4026	178·2	166·5	... 9·1	—110·2	— 84·9	589·2
75	Johannsen and Co.	6493	229·0	176·8	... 16·4	... 14·4	... 29·1	598·1
76	Hammersley	^{1}/4029	417·8	360.8	...116·5	... 74·9	... 39·5	1216·8

RUSSIAN JEWELRY.

THE Russian Ministry of Finance has just published two ponderous tomes on commercial matters, in one of which is given an interesting account of Russian jewelry. We consider this well worth reproducing, as it controverts many usually held opinions, and, coming from the source it does, may be relied upon :—"The working of jewels came to Russia in the nineteenth century. It began in Moscow, which, owing to its being the residence of the Court and grandees, was the principal centre of silver, gold, and jewel works. In the beginning of the eighteenth century there were in Moscow forty-three goldsmiths and 232 silversmiths ; among them were jewelers. Only in the middle of the eighteenth century gold and silver fabrics were organised in Russia ; these fabrics had a certain constant number of workmen on them, and articles in gold and silver were prepared not only to order, but as other market merchandise. Well-organised workshops, with a considerable number of workmen, were established at the end of the last century and the beginning of the present. The principal of these founders is Sazikov, who built his factory first in Moscow and later on in St. Petersburg. Owing to the choice of good models, to the careful execution of the designs of good artists belonging to the fabric and by others, and to the excellent finish of the work, Sazikov became celebrated not only in Russia but also abroad. The repoussé work done by him always attracted the attention of experts and amateurs by the force of their relief. Mechanical apparatus and steam motors were first introduced in the Sazikov factory at St. Petersburg, where latterly seventy-five workmen were working and producing articles to the value of 150,000 roubles. Unfortunately this silver fabric had to be closed in 1880, after the death of the director. The enamelling of silver was very little known until about 1850, and the work previous to that time was imperfectly executed. This art began to be developed owing to the Moscow manufacturer Ovchinnikov, who founded his establishment in 1845. Later on he opened at his works a school with practical classes of drawing and of the science of silver art. The jewelry industry is principally centred in St. Petersburg and Moscow, where it has numerous representatives who possess well-organised factories. Some of them use machinery especially for stamping, in the manufacture of more ordinary articles. Silver and jewelry industries bear also in some localities a domestic character which was especially developed, and attained great proportions about the thirties, in the Government of Kostroma, along the borders of the Volga, in the village Krasnov, which is the centre of the trade, and partly in the village Sidorovskoe and in fifty (?) others which adjoin it. The peasants of some of these villages do not at all occupy themselves with agriculture and devote their whole time to the silver and jewelry industry. The articles manufactured by these peasants are sold over all Russia, not excepting the capitals, by middlemen who get them very cheap from the peasants and sell them at great profits on the market. A great many of these articles go to the Balkan countries, as also to Persia and Central Asia. The productions of the Kostroma peasants amount to the sum of 700,000 roubles yearly. They consist not only of silver articles but also of those in copper and latten, which are sometimes gilt and sometimes only covered with a hard varnish ; all these are made by the same smiths and are therefore included in the same category. An enormous quantity of articles is made for the above mentioned sum, if it be taken into consideration that silver earrings with small turquoises are sold for 40 kopecks per pair and with artificial stones and strass, 23 kopecks, silver brooches, 75 kopecks to 3 roubles a-piece, and latten rings 7 kopecks each. In general, articles in silver are priced for sale at 33 to 35 kopecks per zolotnik. The price of latten articles is still more astonishing ; thus for example, crosses, a thousand pieces of which weigh two pounds, are sold at 40 to 50 kopecks per pound, rings weighing three-quarters of a pound per thousand are sold at 1 rouble per thousand, and if they are gilt, at 10 roubles per thousand ; earrings with beads and stones at 15 roubles per hundred, and simple earrings at 2.50 roubles, and so on. Investigations show that in the above region more than 15,000,000 pieces of different articles from silver and latten are made yearly. These consist of earrings, rings, brooches, bracelets, lockets, chains, and neck crosses, the greatest number of which form silver, latten and copper rings. In both regions, Krasnoselsk and Sidorovsk, more than 3,000 men work at these articles. This work is considered very profitable, although the pay to workmen is very low ; thus, for example, for the making of a hundred rings the workman receives 2.70 roubles, and for the same number of brooches, lockets, and pairs of earrings 6 roubles. It must be taken into consideration, however, that crosses, earrings, brooches, and lockets are made with the aid of hand stamps. It should be noticed that all copper articles the workman must return to the merchant, who orders them by number, and silver wares exclusively by weight, together with the waste and filings. If there is some material wanting, the cost of it is deducted from the earnings of the workman, who receives for making simple articles six kopecks per zolotnik. The agents and the merchants, who are in constant relation with the wholesalers of large towns, watch for the appearance of new patterns, and such as they think the peasant workman can reproduce they send him, ordering him to reproduce them. Thus, the articles made by these workmen become more and more various. The many-colored glasses which often decorate rings, earrings, and other articles are produced and cut in the same villages ; for that purpose white or colored crystal is used. Such glasses or stones when quite finished are sold at 1.50 to 5 roubles per 1,000. Lately these stones are being principally imported. Besides the Government of Kostroma, articles in silver and in copper silvered are produced by the peasants in the Government of Kazan, in the village of Ribnoi, where rings, bracelets, and other ornaments, worn principally by the Tartars, are made. The peasants work silver also in the Government of Vladimir and Moscow, and in the villages of the latter Government the industry is valued at 200,000 roubles. To the silver industry belong also the black enamel works. This business has been principally practised since ancient times in Veliki-Oustioug, Government of Vologda, where it came, according to tradition, from Novgorod, during the reign of Ivan the Terrible. Its special characteristics consist in the pretty shades and the durability of the black enamel, which differs much from that of Moscow. Now the industry has nearly ceased in Veliki-Oustioug, but is very much developed in Moscow, and especially in the Caucasus. The making of leaf gold and leaf silver belongs also to this category of industries. They are made in workshops and by peasants, who get the silver and gold in thin ribbons, 4in. long and 2in. wide. Such a ribbon, which weighs about seven zolotniks, is first cut into small square pieces, which, under the hammer, are gradually divided into many leaves, the number of which amounts finally to as high as 2,000, each leaf being of 12in. square ; they are put into a book of tissue paper, from 60 to 120 leaves in each. The production of leaf silver and of leaf gold is especially developed in the Governments of Moscow and Kaluga, to the value of 500,000 roubles yearly. As in Russia gold of the best quality, namely, of ninety-four standard, is used for making leaf gold, the qualtity of the latter in Russia is much higher than that of many other countries.

AUSTRALIAN GEM STONES.

MR. JOHN PLUMMER, of Sydney, has sent us the following for publication, and although it contains little, if anything, in addition to what we have laid before our readers at various times, it is, perhaps, as well to have our opinions supported from other sources. We consider the account upon the whole a very fair one ; now and then even higher figures might have been quoted. We have called attention to the fact that the average yield of some of the alluvial diamond washings, which extend over large tracks of country, is *absolutely more than that* of the *Kimberley blue*, the latter, as all readers are aware, instead of being spread over the face of the country, occurs only in pipes. Sometimes there is a slight attempt to discount South African diamonds which we reject. We have yet to see the Brazilian gems that are superior to blue-white Jagersfontein. The fact is that in Brazil, Australia, India, and the River diggings of South Africa the gems have been so knocked about during the past æons of geologic time, that large portions of the faulty stones have succumbed to the ordeal, just as the weak children in the gutter die, and only the strong ones are left. We might further remark that we have not yet seen fine marketable *rubies* from Australia ; there is no reason why they should not occur, but rather the reverse ; they have been reported upon good authority ; still we like to confine ourselves to what we have seen, or quote our authority.

"The increasing frequency with which Australian diamonds, emeralds, sapphires, and other gem stones are making their appearance in the British market, has naturally awakened some curiosity respecting the extent to which they are found in a country hitherto associated with ideas principally of wool and the precious metals. In New South Wales, the existence of the diamond was known so far back as 1851, but no systematic efforts in the shape of diamond-mining were made until 1869, when a dimantiferous locality at Cudgegong, a few miles from Mudgee, discovered by some gold diggers in 1867, yielded considerable numbers of the precious stone, mostly of small size, the largest being between five and six carats. Some few years later diamonds were discovered near Bingera, from the neighbourhood of which, up to the present time, several thousand small diamonds have been obtained. There are other localities in which diamonds are found, and at some future date, when the necessary experience and capital are forthcoming, diamond-mining will occupy a leading place among the industries of the Colony. The wash-dirt in which the diamonds are found, contains numerous small sapphires, rubies, garnets, and other gem stones and mineral substances. No official record of the number of diamonds found is kept, but Mr. Coghlan, Government Statistician of New South Wales, estimates that up to the end of 1887, it was 50,000. The New South Wales diamonds are harder and much whiter than the South African diamonds, and are classified on a par with the best Brazilian gems. (?) During the year 1889 the Malacca Company, near Tingha, found diamonds weighing 2,195 carats, valued at £878 5s. In 1891, 12,000 carats of diamonds were won in the Tingha and Inverell districts, but no value has been given. Practically, the dimantiferous districts of the colony, even that at Bingera, have never been fully prospected, although they are known to be numerous and extensive. Among other gem stones found in New South Wales are the sapphire, emerald, oriental emerald, ruby, opal, amethyst, garnet, chrysolite, topaz, cairngorm, onyx, zircon, &c., which are frequently met with in gold and tin-bearing drifts and river gravels in many places throughout the colony. Emeralds of good quality have been found in abundance at Emmaville, in the northern part of the colony, where the Emerald Proprietary Company have sunk two shafts, 100ft. and 50ft. respectively, from which 25,000 carats have been won in a rough state; their value when cut and finished, if of the best quality, is about £10 per carat. Some of the specimens shown in Sydney were extremely beautiful, and as the mines are more fully worked, stones of the richest character will probably be found. At White Cliffs, near Wilcannia, in the north-western portion of the colony, extensive deposits of opal have been discovered, principally in beds of conglomerate and kaolin. Here a township has sprung up in the formerly uninhabited wilderness, the value of the opal sold in 1893 being estimated at from £18,000 to £20,000. Opals have also been discovered near the Abercrombie River and near Lismore. Gem cutting is virtually an unknown industry, the larger stones being sent to Europe to be cut and polished. Comparatively few of those engaged in the search for gems have any practical experience, save what they have obtained in Australia, otherwise it is probable that more extensive and richer discoveries would have been made long before the present time."

A Curious Old London Watch.

THE San Francisco *Bulletin* recently gave the following :—A ponderous watch of antique pattern is displayed in the window of A. W. Stott's jewelry establishment in Montgomery-street. It is four inches in diameter and weighs two and a-half pounds. Its case looks like old gold, but is a composition of base metal. The chain attached to this watch is proportionately ponderous, and bears a seal ring large enough for the finger of a giant. The watch was made by John Bittleson, of London, two centuries ago. It was, no doubt, a marvel of workmanship in those days, and is still a timekeeper. It probably cost about £100, or 500dol. in our money. The hands upon its ample dial mark seconds and fifths of seconds, as well as hours and minutes. The dial also shows the phases of the moon. This remarkable relic is not for sale. It is owned by a gentleman of this city, who has a collection of such curiosities. The old watch has a history of some interest. About 200 years ago an English sea-captain obtained from the king of a tribe of savages in the South Seas some valuable trading privileges. The King showed him many favors, and one day the captain asked the insular monarch to say what most he would like to have sent him from London. It pleased His Royal Highness to intimate that a big watch would suit him well. Accordingly a watch was made to order on a scale befitting the royal personage. And great was his pride therein. Having no pocket, he appointed a Youth Watch-Bearer Extraordinary to the Sovereign. Wherever the King went the watch-bearer followed, carrying the precious royal timepiece in his hands. When the King died, his sons succeded to the ownership of the watch. They sold it to the captain of an American ship, and he disposed of it in Philadelphia. Some time ago it fell into the hands of its present owner, who prizes it highly. This is no doubt one of the oldest repeating watches in existence. Its ring is very musical.

Itinerant Opticians. — In a recent edition of the *St. James's Gazette*, F. J. Bluett, 8, Portland-street, W., calls attention to following of blindness upon using wrongly adapted spectacles. He says, when we consider that 75 per cent. of people with defective eyesight have some amount of astigmatism, at least 40 per cent. have two odd eyes, it will at once be apparent to anyone of common sense that they should have their sight tested by some competent ophthalmic optician. If persons are presbyopic only, and have both eyes alike in focus, even then they are not capable of judging what is necessary for them, and no optometer or other sight-seeing apparatus has ever yet been invented which will enable a novice to determine the error of refraction in a case of astigmatism. Speaking from over 30 years' experience, I can sum up in a few words some of the results of the indiscriminate use of glasses. In the case of odd eyes—gradual loss of sight in the weaker eye, ending in blindness of that eye, strabismus (or squint), diplopia (or double vision), and a gradual weakening of the good eye and making it much more susceptible to disease, such as glaucoma, iritis, etc. In cases of astigmatism, unsuitable glasses will cause neuralgic pains in the eyes, frontal headache, nausea, paralysis of the accommodation, resulting in permanently impaired vision which no skill can restore. The time will come—and I hope soon—when sight-testing opticians will be placed on the same footing as dentists and chemists and have to pass an examination before being allowed to practise.

The Manchester Cup.—The trophy this year is a very fine work of art in the shape of a handsome vase surmounted by a cover with a figure of Shakespeare. The body is enriched with subjects in alto-relievo representing the Battle of Bosworth and the Players' Scene from *Hamlet*. On either side are massive figures of Tragedy and Comedy. The base is ornamented with shields supported by lions, and the whole was supplied by Carrington and Co., 130, Regent-street, London.

Fire at Birmingham.—The premises of Messrs. Swan, jewelers, Church-road, Aston, were completely destroyed by fire on the 22nd ult. The amount of damage is not yet known, but it is covered by insurance. An alarm was sent to the Aston Fire Station and Superintendent Treadaway and his men were soon in attendance, but could only prevent the flames from extending beyond the premises.

Proposed School of Horology.—The members of the Technical Instruction Committee of the Lancashire County Council have recently been investigating the present condition of horology, with the result that they are convinced that a County School of Horology is urgently needed in Lancashire upon the lines of the excellent horological schools on the Continent. With this object in view the committee has arranged to hold a conference with the leading firms in the watchmaking trade and other authorities interested in the subject, at the Sessions House, Islington, Liverpool, on the 28th inst. To this conference all persons engaged in the watchmaking trade, or interested in the establishment of a horological school, are invited.

Sir John Bennett, Limited.—This company has been registered with a capital of £41,023 in 10s. shares to acquire and carry on the business of watch, clock, and chronometer makers, goldsmiths, jewelers, scientific instrument makers, etc., now carried on by Sir John Bennett, Limited (incorporated in 1889), at 64 and 65, Cheapside, E.C.; and, with a view to the other objects, to adopt and carry into effect an agreement with the said Sir John Bennett, Limited. The first directors —to be not less than three nor more than five—are to be elected by the signatories to the memorandum of association. Qualification, £300. Remuneration to be fixed by the company.

The Prescot Watch Industry.—The Earl of Derby, following in the footsteps of his brother, the late earl, has evinced considerable interest in the Prescot watch industry, and it is now announced that he has taken £10,000 worth of shares in the Lancashire Watch Company.

Five Ten-Thousandths of a Second.—Amongst the fifteen new names which are allowed to be followed by the letters F.R.S., there is one which has been awarded the honors in connection with inventions relating to chronometry: it is that of the Rev. Frederick John Smith Millard, Lecturer on Experimental Mechanics, Trinity College, Oxford. "The Chronograph" which he invented, and which is now used in the measurement of the flight of bullets and such-like quick motions—and in calculating the time it takes to send, say a message from the big toe to the brain, and an answer back—is capable of measuring periods of time from one second to five ten-thousandths of this ordinarily the shortest division of time. Such an instrument as this was of course greatly needed for all kinds of biological, mechanical and physical research; but, naturally, the importance of these minute divisions of time would not force themselves upon the mind of the ordinary horologer, hence it was left for the Oxford lecturer to divide up time into hundred-thousandths of a second.

In and Out of the Courts.

A Common-sense Judge.

At the Rochester County Court, J. T. Schaltheiss, jeweler, brought an action against a man named Field to recover £15 12s., value of a gold watch and locket. This was a very peculiar case, it being stated that the watch was bought by the defendant's wife and eventually found its way to the pawnshop. She told plaintiff the watch and locket was for her son's birthday present, and plaintiff understood that the woman, who paid 10s. on account, was buying for her husband. They now summoned the husband, and the wife had stated (before the Registrar) that she had not given her husband the summons. The husband had been wearing the locket. The wife produced the locket, and his Honour asked for it, and, getting possession of it, said the plaintiff had better have it (handing it to him). The woman said when she had the things she was under the influence of drink. She had no son. She did not take it for the purpose of giving it to her "Uncle." (Laughter.) Her husband had never seen the things. The judge said plaintiff had better take back the locket. He gave judgment for the husband, and as to the wife, if plaintiff wished, he could sue her on her separate estate. He was not prepared to make the husband pay for what he had never seen.

A Light Sentence.

Thomas Rayson, a youth of eighteen, was charged at Liverpool with having fraudulently converted to his own use two watches, value £4, the property of George Atkinson, watchmaker. The prisoner was in the employment of a firm of wholesale jewelers, and succeeded in obtaining the watches on approbation, stating that he wanted them for a Captain Davies, an intending purchaser. This appeared to be only a device for the purpose of getting possession of the watches, which he pawned. The prisoner had been up on a previous occasion for a somewhat similar offence, and was given the benefit of the First Offender's Act. He was now sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

Illegal Pawning.

Henry Kellett, watch repairer, Woodley, was charged, on remand, at the Salford Borough Court, with fraudulently converting to his own use a lady's gold lever watch, of which he was the bailee. The watch was left with the prisoner to repair by Mr. J. C. Barber, of Kersal Cell, Higher Broughton, and frequent applications for its return having failed, the police were informed. It was discovered that the prisoner had pawned the watch at Stockport, and seven other pawn-tickets relating to watches were also found in his possession, but the owners of these watches had not been found. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sent to prison for three months with hard labor.

The "Times" in Trouble.

There was recently a robbery at the shop of Mr. Philip Samuels, a Scarborough jeweller, and he considered that the report of the affair in the *Times* conveyed the idea that there was no robbery at all, but that by some underhand transaction on his part he had managed to get rid of his stock, and secure the insurance. Consequently Mr. Samuels sued the *Times* for libel. A verdict was given by consent for Mr. Samuels for 40s. and costs.

Serious Charge Against a Jeweler.

George Mills, 43, of 2, Key Hill-drive, Birmingham, manufacturing jeweler, was charged, at the City Police Court, on May 10th, under the Assay Act, with having about April 23rd last "transferred and removed a certain mark, provided and used by the Company of Guardians of the Standard of Wrought-plate in Birmingham, from divers wares of gold, called brooches." Mr. Alfred Young (instructed by Mr. Carslake) prosecuted, and Mr. Bickley appeared for the defence. Accused, who has in his employ some seven or eight workmen, was arrested on a warrant, and it is alleged that he transferred the 9-carat Hall-mark on a number of brooches of that standard of gold to brooches made of baser metal. As further inquiries have to be made into the matter, the case was adjourned for a week, and Mr. Young said a further remand would also be required.

Attempted Burglary in Hatton-garden.

A daring attempt at diamond robbery has occurred at the premises of Messrs. Rodriques and Co., diamond cutters, 31 and 32, Kirby-street, Hatton-garden. The cutting-rooms (on the second floor) were locked up and left on Friday evening, May 18th. When the men returned to work on the Monday morning traces of a long attack on the two large Milner's safes were seen. The thieves had drilled several holes over an inch in depth in the safe doors, and had to relinquish their task without success. They had evidently come to make a big job, having brought food and a large supply of tools, some of which were left about the rooms. The police have as yet no clue, but believe that the "crooks" entered the premises on the Saturday evening. The work on the safes was clumsily done, and the burglars are believed to be inexpert hands. One safe contained £2,000 and another over £5 000 in hard gems; a third smaller safe they had succeeded in opening, but it did not contain any valuables.

An Old Game.

An impudent theft was recently committed at the shop of Mr. E. J. Lay, jeweler, Swindon. Two men of respectable appearance entered the shop, and one persuaded the lad in charge to go outside with him on the pretence of looking at something in the window. The man who remained in the shop secured the cash-box, and he and his companion at once made off with it. The lad was suspicious and raised an alarm, with the result that Mr. Lay gave chase on a bicycle, but the men got away across some fields. Fortunately the cash-box was almost empty.

He Got Off Cheaply.

George Hayward, a watchmaker, of Charteris-road, Kilburn, was charged before Mr. Horace Smith, that he, being bailee of a gold watch, the property of John Slater, did convert the same to his own use. The prosecutor, a provision dealer, said that on February 4th last he handed Hayward, at his premises, 99, Hatton-garden, two gold watches for repair. One of them the prisoner returned, but the other one, value £10, he could not get from him. He made several excuses for his delay in sending it home. Finally the prosecutor discovered that on the day following the receipt of the watch Hayward had pledged it for £1 5s. at the shop of Mr. Hill, Gray's Inn-road. A warrant was applied for and granted, and Detective-sergeant Blight arrested the prisoner at Kilburn. The prosecutor said he did not wish to press the charge, as Hayward had done a great deal of work for him, and he had never had reason to complain before. The prisoner said he became involved in difficulties in bringing out a patent, and, being short of money, he pledged the prosecutor's watch. He had no felonious intention in doing so, and fully intended to redeem it. Mr. Horace Smith ordered the prisoner to pay a fine of £1, and £1 5s., the amount for which the property was pledged, or in default twenty-one days' imprisonment.

Impudent False Representation.

At the Preston County Court, before the Registrar, William Woodruff, coal dealer, of that town, claimed £5 from James Russell and Co., watch manufacturers, of 64, Low-hill, Liverpool, for false representation. The defendants were not represented, and did not appear. It was stated that some time ago the plaintiff was induced, under the impression that defendants were the celebrated Russells, of Liverpool, to join a watch club and to pay a shilling a week, on the understanding that he should have the chance of a ballot. The card shown to him had printed on it "Representatives of J" in one line, the "J" being very small, and then in bold type in the next line "Russell and Co., Liverpool." Plaintiff paid a shilling a week for eighty weeks, and then began to inquire about his watch. Ultimately he went to Liverpool, and found defendants living in a private house at Low-hill without any sign or name on the door. They said they would send the watch the next day, but failed to do so. Plaintiff went to Liverpool again, and interviewed them, and eventually received a watch with a cracked dial, lacking the "seconds" finger, and in a case aged forty years, the works inside bearing the inscription, "J. Russell and Co., Liverpool." Hence the present action. The evidence of an expert showed the watch to be as stated, and worth only about £1. The Registrar gave a verdict for the amount claimed.

A Sleight-of-hand Trick.

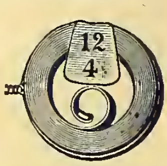
Parisian jewelers are on their guard, as a rule, against the tricks of swindlers, of whom there are many in the French capital, but the ingenuity of the latter is often more than a match for ordinary precautions. A lady and gentleman presented themselves at a jeweler's shop in the Rue de Chateaudun, and asked to see some diamond ornaments. Both were stylishly dressed, and were evidently well-educated people, so that their appearance did not give rise to the slightest suspicion. They chose diamonds to the value of 12,000fr. The gentleman then said that he found he had left his pocket-book at home. "However," he said, "put the diamonds in a card-board box and seal them up, and to-morrow I will call and pay for them." The jeweller put up the jewels, as he thought, in the box. The following day came, and the day after, and there was no sign of the customer's return. At length, getting alarmed, the jeweler opened the box, and found that paste diamonds had been substituted for the real ones. How the trick was done he does not know. He can only suppose that the thief, having seen the stones in the window, brought similar ones in paste with him, and by means of sleight-of-hand substituted them for the real ones.

He Didn't Remember.

AT Marlborough-street Police Court Benjamin Steinhausen, aged eighteen, a porter, was charged before Mr. Hannay with having stolen 10oz. of grain gold, of the value of £42 10s., belonging to Mr. J. C. Plucknett, jeweler, of Poland-street. The prosecutor deposed that for the last ten months the prisoner had been in his service. Recently he sent him to the Sheffield Smelting Company, Bury-street, Clerkenwell-road, to fetch for him 10oz. of gold, of the value of £42 10s. The accused did not return with the gold. A few days later he met him by accident in Oxford-street, and asked him what he had been doing. The prisoner replied that he did not remember having the gold, but that he must have signed for it. He added that he believed he must have been drugged, for he did not remember anything after reaching Sutton-street. The accused was then given into custody. Reginald Foster, an assistant in the employment of the Sheffield Smelting Company, deposed that on the day in question he handed 10oz. of gold to the prisoner, who signed for it. Mr. Hannay committed Steinhausen, who pleaded not guilty, for trial.

The Measuring and Testing of Mainsprings.

IT is a fact obvious to every manufacturer, watchmaker, or material dealer, that the variety of gauges at present in use in connection with mainsprings is a source of continual annoyance, frequently involving loss of money, time, and temper. If, under the present heterogeneous conditions, he has to replenish a stock of springs, and forgets to mention which of the numerous gauges he employs, the probability is that he receives different sizes from those required. Further, if he wants to make quite sure of receiving the right sizes, it is necessary for him to send his own particular gauge every time he gives an order, for there often exists differences even between gauges of the same class on account of there being no standard by which they can be rectified. The fact is in this chaotic state of things, there are all sorts of gauges and it would appear that every manufacturer of springs of any repute considers his position established by adding to the complexity in having a separate gauge of his own, quite distinct from all others. To make the confusion still greater, for some unknown reason, the gauges for Geneva springs differ again from those for lever springs, but what is more wonderful still, is the fact that up to the present nobody has tried to remedy this confusion. Since the metric system has been introduced for the gauging of so many articles for watchmakers consumption, why should it not be introduced for the gauging of mainsprings as well? This system is daily gaining ground all over the world and *must* eventually come into general use. Why not introduce it at once for the gauging of watch-springs, and take advantage of the great simplification and physical advantages connected with its introduction. A laudable effort has recently been made with the object of doing away with the all-existing confusion by the introduction of the "Reform Mainspring Gauge." In this the sizes are graduated by 1-10th of a millimeter, starting from No. 5 (meaning 5-10 millimeter) up to No. 60, thus giving a range of fifty-five numbers, which are ample for all classes of English and Geneva watches. The advantages arising from the introduction of an intelligent and physical unit are so great that it will not be necessary to enlarge further upon them, and we sincerely hope the Trade will be wise enough to adopt the new gauge immediately. Once this system is the recognised one throughout the Trade, it will be easy to measure springs in terms of the metric system by any other gauge that may happen to be handy. For instance, supposing the "Reform" gauge is mislaid or lost, a sliding calliper, micrometer, or a so-called tenth-gauge having gradations in tenths of a millimeter, will give the correct size of a spring equally well. To facilitate the re-arranging of old stock, a table of sizes, showing the equivalents of the numbers of some of the old gauges as compared with the "Reform" has been compiled, and thus the trouble of re-gauging is reduced to a minimum. A further most important innovation consists in the introduction of the Patent Number Plate, by which principle every spring has a small brass plate attached to it upon which its exact size and diameter is impressed in the manner shown in the block. It is difficult to describe all the advantages which will follow the introduction of the Patent Number Plate Spring. We might, however, observe they are made of a sterling quality, material, and for finish and durability they will compare well with any springs now on the market, while the system of attaching the number and force to every spring by a brass label with indestructible figures does away with the possibility of getting the wrong sizes into the wrong packets. No matter what the number of the packet may be into which a spring may have got by an oversight, or in the hurry of serving a customer, it does not require re-gauging, as the number and force are on it, every individual spring being marked. But perhaps the most important feature is the absolute accuracy with which the "Patent Number Plate Springs" are gauged and tested, as this does away with the necessity of uncoiling each spring and trying it on the gauge before giving it to a customer. All a material dealer has to do is to gauge the broken spring which is brought to him by his customer on the "Reform" gauge and his strength gauge. As soon as he has ascertained the number and force, there is no further work left, as he can simply pick out the spring with the corresponding number and force marked on it, which can be done in a few seconds. The saving of time and annoyance under this system must be enormous, not to mention the spoiled and rusty springs which accumulate through continual opening and touching. The procedure is so simple that any boy will be able to fit mainsprings on the "Reform" and "Number Plate" system, and we have no hesitation in saying that those material dealers and watchmakers who do not adopt them will be at a serious disadvantage compared with men who lay in a stock at once, and who can consequently work quicker and better. In conclusion, we may point out that the springs need not be kept in their original packets, but may be put in boxes, or if a lot get mixed up by accident, the work of separating sizes and forces is rendered so easy through the Number Plates that sorting the springs takes no more time than counting them.



A Suggestion for the Ingenious.—A human face clock is on view in the window of a St. Petersburg watchmaker. The hands are pivoted on its nose, and any messages spoken into its ear are repeated by a phonograph through its mouth. It is said to be the only clock of the kind at present in existence. Why not take the idea a little further? Fix a small alarum dial on the stand, which should at the time set, ring a bell, and then when a button was pressed, articulate from its mouth the message spoken into its ear. Messages out of number could be thus left, under conditions too numerous to mention, *e.g.*, a gentleman may have an appointment at 5 o'clock, but at 3 o'clock he may be called away; he could then leave a message which his friend could receive at 5 o'clock, when he came.

Four Seconds a Week.—Messrs. Joyce, of Whitchurch, have recently tendered for a town clock for the town in Tyndale Chapel, near Clifton-Down Railway Station, Bristol, which they guarantee not to vary more than four seconds a week. We fear that with driving winds and other adverse circumstances this is a "tall order." We have had a lot of experience with turret timesters, but should be afraid to make such a guarantee as this.

From the Antipodes.—The New Zealand Watchmakers' and Jewelers annual picnic was recently held under the most favorable circumstances. The place of rendezvous was Motuihi. The Devonport Ferry Company's steamer Eagle made two trips down to the island, conveying about 700 excursionists in all. A goodly number also went down in yachts. The fine weather that prevailed throughout the day caused the gathering to be a thorough success.

The Cost of Electric Time Signalling.—In advocating the adoption of the electric current for time signalling for Aberdeen, as has already been done by two enterprising local jewelers, a Northern correspondent suggests that the Greenwich current could be made to release a ball on the Town-House Tower, or better still, fire a gun at the Barracks, which would be heard all over the town. By the latter expedient also the signal could either be seen or heard by passing ships at sea. The cost of the 10 a.m. signal would be but £12 per annum; of the 1 p.m. signal £27.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

To the Editor of the WATCHMAKER, JEWELER, SILVERSMITH, AND OPTICIAN.

The Licensing Question.

SIR,—You have no doubt seen the result of the question put by our member, Baron F. de Rothschild, in the House of Commons on Tuesday evening—*re* watch, plate, and jewelry clubs and the plate license. In correspondence with Mr. Harry Atkin he said he should send you a copy of my letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer for publication in your June issue, with my permission. As it is all based on facts, and the statistics have taken me time and trouble to collect, I am writing to say if I can be of any further assistance to you, as representative of what I am proud to call our Trade Organ, I shall be only too pleased. I have been in the business forty years, and have always watched the interests of my trade with jealousy, and I can plainly see that if we do not soon form some strong *retail* association, with an organ like yours to protect us, many of us will be almost snuffed out of existence, or practically so, by drapers, stationers, and other trades, who are cutting our trade to pieces, both in prices and introducing foreign manufactured jewelry and plate.—Faithfully yours,

THOS. FIELD.

Aylesbury, May 10th, 1894.

DEAR SIR,—It is with no small sense of satisfaction that I noticed in the *Times* of May 9th that at last, through the kindness of Baron F. de Rothschild M.P., the question of illegal dealing in gold and silver watches, jewelry and plate, had been pressed upon the attention of the Government, and I was pleased likewise to observe, that Sir William Harcourt, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, had promised that an inquiry should be made into the matter. This evil is not confined to England exclusively, but, I regret to say, also extends to Ireland, and that to an alarming extent. Take Belfast alone, and in this city there are numbers of persons employed in various ways, foremen in factories, mills and ship-building yards, commercial travellers, retired policemen and others engaged in offices under Government who act as "agents" for the sale of watches and jewelry, others manage "watch clubs," and I know of instances where a regular private trade is carried on by individuals carrying quite a stock of jewelry and watches, and who dispose of them on their own account without paying any license. Now, the professional jeweler is looked after pretty sharply by the Revenue Authorities. Then why should these free hands be permitted to escape scot free? If any person trades in tobacco, cigars, wine, beer, spirits, keeps a dog, or uses armorial bearings without paying a license, immediate steps are taken to vindicate the law, and it is well-known that the authorities take a great deal of trouble, and incur no small expense to find out and prosecute to conviction such offenders. Then why should not these irresponsible and illegitimate dealers in gold and silver wares be compelled to pay that license which they so systematically and successfully evade? Then, again, we have drapers, tobacconists, cutlers, stationers, and others, who in the ordinary course of every-day business, and without any attempt at concealment, deal in the prohibited wares; yet they pay no license, and they come into daily competition with the legitimate jeweler, who is compelled to pay it. I do not hesitate to say that there is not a jeweler in England who is not quite as fully aware of the existence of these evils as I am. The time has now come when some decided move should be made to secure a remedy. The attention of the Government has been directed to the question, and if the matter falls through, and ends in smoke, the legitimate licensed traders have no one to blame but themselves. It is the duty of the Trade to urge upon the authorities the necessity which exists for a thorough revision of the law relating to the granting of these licenses. I would suggest that the jewelers throughout the country should individually collect all the available evidence possible bearing upon this question, noting names and occupation of persons. (*a*) Acting as "agents," (*b*) promoting "clubs," (*c*) trading on their own account. Such evidence will be most useful hereafter. I would also urge upon them the necessity of ventilating their grievances through the medium of the public Press, and that they should approach the members of Parliament for their various districts and educate them upon this (to us) most important question. Last month, in a letter which appeared in *The Waterbury* trade journal, I advocated the formation of a National Licensed Goldsmiths' and Jewelers' Union, having for its object the protection of the Trade interests throughout the kingdom. In response to my letter I had communications from all parts of the country approving of my suggestion, and promising support. Such a union must have its centre in London. Again I venture to bring forward this proposal: A subscription of £1 1s. per annum would provide a more than ample income. It will not do to sit still and wait for others to help us. We must help ourselves, and now is the time for action. I earnestly commend this important question to the attention of the Trade generally. Heretofore the struggle has been maintained by one here and another there. Public-spirited men have attempted to bring the matter to a successful issue. If the legitimate Traders are now prepared to take the matter up, no better opportunity ever offered. As a body we are all cognisant of the existence of these evils. Jewelers all over the country complain bitterly of the injury done to their trade by such irresponsible vendors. The public are suffering, thinking that by purchasing a watch or an article of jewelry at the "back door" they are able to buy it cheaper, but a little later on they find out to their cost whether they do so or not. I have seen watches sold by these gentry for £2 which could be bought in any shop for 21s. I think a memorial should be presented to the Government urging upon them the advisability of making the cost of the license uniform, viz., £5 15s., and that all persons dealing in articles of gold or silver, jewelry, watches, coins, medals, or plate, no matter what the weight may be, should be compelled to pay this duty. This, coupled with careful supervision by the Revenue authorities and an impartial administration of the law, would soon produce satisfactory results, and would be the means of putting an end to the illegal and illegitimate trading of which we complain and from which we undoubtedly suffer. I think Baron F. De Rothschild, M.P., deserves our heartiest thanks for his advocacy of our claims. We are deeply indebted to him for so successfully bringing the matter before the House, and for his exposure of the unfair and the (to us) unjust way in which the law relating to goldsmiths' and silversmiths' licenses has been administered.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully

Belfast, May 24th, 1894. WILLIAM J. SIMPSON.

DEAR SIR,—Your readers will perhaps have noticed that Baron F. de Rothschild has brought the matter of the jewelers' licenses before the House of Commons. I consider the legitimate tradesmen are very much indebted to this gentleman for doing so, and I trust that ALL members of the Trade will support him in every way they can. And I hope this may be the means of putting agents on the same footing as other jewelers.—Yours faithfully, A. SYDENHAM.

26, Frederick-street, May 25th, 1894.

DEAR SIR,—I have no doubt in your useful and interesting journal you will make some comments on the much-abused jewelers' license, which, in my opinion, as at present carried, amounts to nothing short of a farce. Properly enforced, a jewelers' license would act as a protection to the Trade as well as to the public. Now, everyone in the trade must know how the trade is being monopolised by clubs, etc., all over the country, conducted by people who have not the remotest idea of the trade; acting as agents for distant importing firms' on the catalogue system. It seems to me very hard on the practical jeweler and watchmaker that he should be so heavily handicapped by authority and influence that is brought to bear by foremen and others in large works, etc., taking up these so-called agencies, simply for profit, without having to pay any license. It also seems very arbitrary; the excise officials exercise their officialism only in a good many instances on practical jeweler's who have served their term of apprenticeship, whereas these trade biters have been allowed to go free. I can vouch for the truth of this statement by my personal experience. I am glad to see the matter has been taken up in the House of Commons, but I am afraid unless the Trade agitates for a thorough reform it will go on in the same loose manner it has done of late years, from bad to worse, and the good old-fashioned watchmaker or jeweler who used to have such pride in his trade will be extinct.—Hoping to hear of better results and a wiser counsel, I am, yours truly,

A. READER.

OUR TRADE GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES.

DUNLOP, Charles James, *Watch Materiai Dealer*, 62, Great Hampton-street, Birmingham. The first meeting was held on May 9th, at 23, Colmore-row, Birmingham, when the Official Receiver was appointed trustee of the estate. It appeared the liabilities amounted to £910, and assets £385. In his observations the Official Receiver pointed out that up to 1886 bankrupt was engaged as a journeyman watchmaker, and in that year he commenced business without capital. He was well known in the trade, and had no difficulty in obtaining credit, and he also borrowed £150 from the Dudley Trust, which he subsequently repaid. He traded fairly well until 1893, but since then he had experienced difficulty owing to the want of capital and the continued bad trade. The High Bailiff and Sheriff had frequently been in possession, and the immediate causes of the petition were executions levied by their officers. Shortly after the receiving order complaints were received from customers that they could not obtain watches which had been sent to him for repair, and on the 14th ult. 19 pawn-tickets relating to watches pawned by the bankrupt for £52 19s. 3d. were handed to him (the Official Receiver) by bankrupt's solicitors. Proceedings were instituted by two of the customers, and a summons for illegal pawning was issued, answerable on the 18th inst. Bankrupt did not attend, and was subsequently apprehended on a warrant and committed for two months' imprisonment. He was still in Winson Green Gaol.

WEIGLEY, Ernest Julian, *Jeweler, etc.*, Station-street, Meltham, near Huddersfield. Adjudication April 23rd.

PAGE, John Albert, *Jeweler, etc.*, Bishops Cleeve, Gloucestershire. First meeting and examination have been held. The receiving order was made on the debtor's own petitions, and he had been adjudicated bankrupt. The unsecured liabilities amount to £498 5s., and there are preferential claims for £20 6s. 8d. The assets consist of £62 4s. 10d.; cash in hand, £10, deposited with his solicitor, and 5s. book debt. The deficiency (after the preferential creditors are satisfied) amounts to £446 1s. 10d. The alleged causes of failure were "bad trade, illness of self and wife, and loss on sale of stock." Bankrupt appears to have commenced business in March, 1891, with a capital of £200 (given him by his father). He had two shops, one in High-street, and the other in Pittville-street, and on March 2nd last he sold all his stock-in-trade and furniture at both places, realising £72 4s. 10d. With this he offered a composition of 4s. in the £, which, however, all the creditors would not accept. Only one creditor (debtor's brother) attended, and the matter remains in the hands of the Receiver.

SPENCER, Isaac Humphrey, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 28, Rathbone-place, Oxford-street, London. Receiving order April 26th, and order of adjudication April 27th. First meeting has been held and examination will take place on June 12th, at Bankruptcy-buildings, Carey-street, W.C.

RILEY, Francis Bolton (F. B. Riley and Co., trading as), *Wholesale Jeweler, etc.*, 92, Paradise-street, Liverpool. Adjudication April 27th. The debtor appeared at the County-court, Liverpool, before Mr. Registrar Cooper, for his public examination, and in answer to questions said he started business in October, 1890, in partnership with a Mr. George Boyd, and at different times obtained from the Lancashire and Yorkshire Reversionary Company advances on account of a reversion. He put the amount so obtained at £2,300, and said all that money had gone into the business. In November, 1892, the partnership with Mr. Boyd, who did not bring in any capital, was dissolved, and the business continued by debtor alone. He became short of capital, and in November last consulted his solicitor as to his position, and the next day signed a paper, the object of which he took to be to protect his estate. In the following month he was pressed by a firm at Birmingham, and he executed a deed of assignment to them, but on proceeding to take possession of the property this firm was unable to do so, because it appeared that the paper previously signed by the debtor had been a deed of assignment. Ultimately the examination was adjourned. At the further hearing, which took place on May 24th, the case was again adjourned till June 7th.

SMITH, Harold, *Silversmith*, 1, Margaret-street, Regent-street, London, lately trading in co-partnership with Enrico de' Martino, at 3 and 4, Via Santa Brigida, Naples, as De Martino and Co., and at 6, Ludgate-square, London. First meeting and examination have been held. Accounts have been filed showing liabilities £1,064 9s. 9d. and no assets, the debtor being unable to state the value of his interest (if any) in the business of Martino and Co. He attributes his failure to pressure put upon him by creditors of the firm in connection with bills accepted by him in his own name. The chairman pointed out that only the separate estate of the debtor was involved, but he would have to give particulars of his interest in the firm of De Martino and Co., in which he had a half-share. The debtor was stated to be ill at Antwerp at the present time. An adjudication in bankruptcy having been made, Mr. F. Gimlett, accountant, of New Inn Chambers, was appointed trustee to wind up the matter.

FOX, Bros, *Jewelers*, 104, Radford Boulevard, Nottingham. The first meeting was held on May 18th, at St. Peter's Church-walk, Nottingham. It appeared the receiving order was made against Fox Bros. on the 13th April, 1894, on a creditor's petition, founded on their non-compliance with bankruptcy notice, served on them on March 7th. The notice sent to Fox Bros., on the making of the receiving order, calling upon them to attend for their preliminary examination, was responded to by Jacob Levina Fox, who stated that he was the sole member of the firm, trading as Fox Bros., and that he had not been in partnership. He said he commenced business about six or seven years ago in Leicester, under the name of Fox Bros, with a capital of about £200, which he he had saved, and that he removed to Nottingham about four years ago. Mr. R. Rhodes was appointed trustee to act with a committee of inspection.

BONHAM, Joseph, *Watch Manufacturer*, 17, Upper Well-street, Coventry. Receiving order May 9th and order of adjudication on May 12th. The first meeting and examination have been held. The accounts show gross liabilities £1,059 12s. 5d., of which £756 3s. 2d. is unsecured, and assets, after deducting preferential claims, £87 5s. 3d. The debtor gives as the causes of his insolvency "bad debts and bad trade." He states he commenced business thirteen years ago, and that previously he was carrying on business in partnership with Mr. John Perkins, under the style or firm of Bonham, Perkins and Co.; this partnership was dissolved by a petition for liquidation by arrangement, their liabilities were about £400, and a dividend of about 3s. in the £ was paid and he obtained his discharge. The following are creditors :—

		£	s.	d.
Lancashire Watch Company, Limited	Prescot	15	6	0
Hunt, Isaac and Co.	,,	16	0	0
Wright, F.	Coventry	11	18	10
Gravenor, R.	,,	150	0	0
Waterfall, A.	,,	94	0	0
Cooke, C.	,,	107	7	6
Coventry Corporation	,,	10	0	0
Burr, H.	,,	26	0	0
Scrivener, R.	,,	10	0	9
Edwards A. and Co.	,,	22	0	0
Bassett, J., trustee of	,,	41	8	0
Harriss, Charles	,,	85	0	0
Scrivener, R. Exors. of	,,	10	0	0
London and Midland, Limited	,,	23	1	6
Gordon and Sons	Birmingham	16	0	0
Liabilities on Bills (of which £100 is expected to rank)		384	8	6
Preferential Creditors		19	0	9

JONES, Jonathan, *Watchmaker and Jeweler*, 18, Bridge-street, Hereford. Receiving order and adjudication May 8th. The first meeting and examination have been held.

SANDERS, Samuel, *Watchmaker*, 171, Park-road, late 260, Shaw-road, Oldham. Receiving order and adjudication May 8th.

HALL, George, *Jeweler*, 6, St. George's-terrace, Brearley-street, Birmingham. Receiving order May 18th.

BLOOMFIELD, James, *Watchmaker*, Blackfriar's-road, Wisbech, late Afghan-place and Scoles Green, Norwich. Receiving order May 16th.

LEWIS, Hyman, *Jeweler*, 33, Lower Brunswick-street, Leeds. The accounts filed herein show gross liabilities £356 9s. 2d. (unsecured, £304 2s 2d.), and net assets, £72 3s. 9d. The debtor attributes his failure to bad trade, bad debts, and sickness of family during the past twelve months. He appeared for public examination on May 8th, when, in answer to questions, he said he travelled the country districts and sold to

Notes for Buyers Abroad.

WHAT, WHERE, AND FROM WHOM TO PURCHASE.

APPLICATIONS reach us almost every day from abroad, and particularly from the British Colonies, for advice as to which houses supply this, that, or the other article; and in response to many appeals, we have decided to give some account of a number of the principal firms, together with some of their specialties, and such further information as we feel will be of service to our readers in placing orders or, in the event of a business visit to this country, making a tour of the trade. Of course, the space at our disposal does not allow of the mention of every individual firm or of reference in detail to each of their specialties. The purpose of these notes is to give the purchaser abroad—and the information might not be lost to our readers at home—some fair idea of what, and where, and from whom he can buy to the best advantage, and to the best satisfaction of his requirements.

LONDON WATCH AND CLOCK TRADE.

CLERKENWELL has always been associated with the very best of English work, and although—owing to a change in the modern methods of production—this colony does not claim so overwhelming a proportion of the trade as formerly, by far the greater part of the very finest hand work is still made in the districts surrounding the holy well. Formerly the complicated work was done abroad, and the fitting to English movements and cases alone was effected here. Now, however, the most complicated watches of every description—the details of which would simply defy one—are not only manufactured by several well-known firms, but they achieve results never before obtained in this class of horological marvels. In the late Kew competition H. Golay secured 80·3 marks with a minute and seconds chronograph and minute repeater; and Messrs. Stauffer, Son and Co. the first place for minute and seconds chronographs with 79·4 marks; Messrs. Clémence Frères obtaining a similar place for minute repeaters. Messrs. Usher and Cole, whose specialty has long been this class of work, did not enter the area this time, but appear to have been turning their attention more to watches of a less complex character. When, however, we speak of watches of a less complex character, perhaps we may appear to do but faint justice to that class of watch which has on three successive occasions towered so high above the heads of all others in the Kew competition—viz., the tourbillon chronometer. On two occasions this victory has been scored by Messrs. Stauffer, Son, and Co. For the benefit of our Colonial readers who are still a little conservative in their ideas, we might point out that these marvels of the horologer's science and art are constructed with a going barrel, single overcoil. Probably no one would challenge the scientific principles of the chronometer, but, as ordinarily constructed, it is well known that it is ill adapted for pocket use, as any sudden jerk at an unfortunate instant may result in stopping the timester. All this, however, is overcome in that marvellous invention the tourbillon—so that in this watch we have, doubtless, arrived as near as possible to absolute perfection. There are several other firms whose productions of high-class English watches are known all over the world, such as Victor Kullberg, who, as most of us are aware, is regarded as a father, or almost a patron saint, of horology, together with a number of others who constitute the London Trade.

When we come to the ordinary first-class, useful, serviceable, well-made, time-keeping English levers, we find a great difference in the methods of production. The garret, or out-system, has been dying a natural death, and from its ashes—or even before it was dead—sprang up the machine-made interchangeable work. The principal factory of this description is that of Messrs. P. and A. Guye, 77, Farringdon-road. Here may be seen a sight which one would think sufficient to raise the old Clerkenwellers out of their graves—machines set almost to the millionth of an inch, and performing marvellous actions, such as cutting out by the hundreds of thousands various parts of watches which are absolutely true. But we may not stop to dilate on the wonders of the machinery employed in modern watchmaking; the upshot of it all is interchangeable movements—easy fitting, easy repairing, exactly made, timekeeping, serviceable watches at only a small part of their original cost. There are also Coventry manufacturers who have premises or agents in London.

Leaving our offices and turning eastward we arrive in a few yards' walk at Holborn-circus; from this point spring out a number of turnings which furnish a *locale* for a large portion of the trade. First, on the north side, we have Hatton-garden, the home of the diamond trade, to which branch we shall more definitely refer subsequently. We will therefore keep straight ahead till we reach Charterhouse-street, a more modern and imposing thoroughfare, principally occupied by one branch or another of the trade. Amongst those confined to the watch trade pre-eminent stand the firm of MESSRS. STAUFFER, SON AND CO., occupying the ground floor and basement of No. 13. Year by year this firm has been securing the highest possible honors in the trade, whether at Kew, or in Switzerland, where they have been repeatedly awarded first prizes by the Council of State. In point of numbers, of the watches which have obtained the Kew certificates, sometimes considerably over one-half have been the product of Messrs. Stauffer, Son and Co. Again, in the last list recently published of the Kew awards, we find this firm at the top with a tourbillon chronometer, a sister watch to that with which they broke the record in 1891. The firm are to be congratulated on their great achievement of being able to offer a watch with the Kew certificate "at the price of ordinary watches." Of the possibility of this we were obliged to express our doubt at the time of its first announcement; but it was such a revolution in the trade that even now we feel that our legitimate doubt had justification, as it really appeared nothing short of an impossibility. Anti-magnetic watches are now so in requisition that really it is difficult to say whether any watch can be reliable unless so constructed, as in almost every town into which one goes one is brought into proximity with strong electric currents. Of these extra-fortified and electric invulnerable timesters this firm were about the first to make a great and leading feature, and they sell a Kew certificated watch with anti-magnetic escapement, guaranteed to be unaffected by the current of the strongest dynamo, at a very low figure. Another product of the firm to which all members of the trade may be introduced with profit is Messrs. Stauffer's chronograph. To our knowledge, a body of the most scientific experts of the day has decided upon this instrument above all other competitors for the accurate time-measurements it is necessary to make in their investigations

The same entrance hall leads us to MESSRS. GAY, LAMAILLE AND Co., an old firm long celebrated for every description of the better-class English and French clocks. Here may be seen grandfather's clocks, of superb design and construction, with every modern addition; elaborate bracket clocks, which peal away like young "Big Bens," French clocks of every period of art, old Empires, the Louis, buhls, bronzes, marbles, ormolus, and art chinas, while the difficulty in describing the carriage clocks would perhaps only be exceeded in a similar attempt at a catalogue of what one might call the novelties. The whole of the goods are such as one sees in the very best houses in the trade.

At the corner of the street is a large clock warehouse, owned by MESSRS. BENDON AND Co. In these spacious galleries may be seen a profuse display of clocks of a variety of styles; the most impressive perhaps being the large wooden-cased articles. We believe the firm has branches in Germany, and that some of these imposing cases are made in that country. The stock, however, is by no means limited to this class of goods, but is as varied as one could wish, every class of clock being well represented.

This warehouse is at the corner of Ely-place, an old ecclesiastical locality with architectural relics of a venerable age. In its sacred retreat, uninfluenced by the modern introduction of the cheap and nasty, reposes the establishment of MESSRS. CLEMENCE FRÈRES, with which is incorporated the old business of Carley and Co. The Clémence family are born watchmakers; they work, they invent, they improve, and they enter into business. They love their trade, and are proud of it. If there is any movement on foot for the good of the trade in any one way, shape, or form, this name appears in the list. Nothing is done by halves, everything is thoroughly and well done. The same may be said of the firm's productions; nothing either cheap and nasty or exorbitantly dear; everything fair in price and good in quality. Naturally, with so much care, thought and skill spent upon their productions, they have some very fine things to show the trade, and their improved chronograph, amongst other things, is an arrangement which every lover of the horologer's art ought to see.

The bottom of Charterhouse-street brings us to Farringdon-road, where we soon arrive at the extensive factory of P. AND A. GUYE, and a journey through this establishment from end to end reveals sights never to be forgotten, especially by a man who has served his time at the bench, and has been used to doing everything by hand. We remember seeing several magnificent old specimens of turret clocks, where the wheels had been cut out of the solid by the file and the elbow-grease of an old monk; and when we calculate the time spent in only cutting out such pieces, let alone the almost endless labor involved in formation, and compare that with the lightning action of a modern automatic wheel-cutter, the nature of modern improvements in mechanical methods can in some degree be estimated. But this comparison is nothing by the side of the improvements in the machinery employed in watchmaking. Elsewhere we give some account of two of the recent inventions of this firm, and having had many thousands of their watches through our hands, few are better able to speak of their excellence than ourselves. Both of these patents, mentioned under the heading of "Things New and Noteworthy," on another page, together with an improvement in the potence, are included in a new full-plate English lever, which the firm have just brought out. In this the general squareness of brass-work and finish of steel-work reminds one of an expensive watch, although the price, we believe, is even less than former productions. This timester has been designed with a view of securing as much power as possible, and ample freedom everywhere. The escapement appears unusually perfect in its action, and the watch has the general appearance of a good, sound, substantial, well-built article, for which we venture to predict a great success. But, while bringing out a superior watch at a lower figure, it must be admitted that the firm have not lost sight of their higher-grade watches —those marvels of exactitude for which they have been so long celebrated. In these, also, they have made corresponding improvements. We also notice they have secured the services of some of the very finest hand-workers in Clerkenwell, so that their watches embrace the perfection in the train and escapement which can only be secured by machinery, with the exquisite beauty which the touch of the horologist alone can give. As we must always remember, the day will never come when metal will go into a machine and come out watches (an idea, by the way, that some people have); the skilled watchmaker will always be indispensable. Despite the pressure on our space, we must just remark that their lady's watch, to which we referred in our last colonial edition, has been a perfect success. It is being supplied in engraved cases, with or without fancy enamelled hour circles. This is a novelty in the English trade.

MESSRS. SIMMONS AND FREDERICKS, 19, Charterhouse-buildings, Goswell-road, E.C., are a firm eminently necessary for the general trade to know, as their productions are so varied and cover so many branches. Amongst clocks, reference might specially be made to the facilities they enjoy for turning out reliable articles in a diversity of styles at favorable prices, seeing that they have factories in the North of France where the marble cases are made. New and improved machinery for this purpose is now in course of construction. They also deal largely with German houses, so that by a choice of productions they are able to offer to the trade exceptional advantages. In bronzes, too, special attention might be called to the new styles of decoration recently introduced, which, together with the beautiful new models, ought to command for these articles an important position.

We will now retrace our steps through Charterhouse-street, calling on several other branches of the trade, reference to which we will leave till later on. Finding ourselves once more in Holborn-circus, we cross over to MESSRS. WEILL AND Co., at No. 3. Here may be seen a large selection of complicated watches, together with many specialties of the firm, amongst which reference might be made to "The Winner," a double split chronograph with patent continuous action, and other features which have been described in the pages of this journal. Another special chronograph and minute reckoner is known all through the English trade as "The Ascot." Of course reference to all these specialties would be simply impossible. We might, however, mention that the firm are continually introducing novelties in ladies' watches, especially chatelaine and kindred kinds; of these they have an excellent variety.

The adjoining turning is Bartlett's-buildings, which is occupied by several important firms connected with the trade. In the watch trade special reference might be made to MESSRS. MOJON, MANGER AND Co., who import every description of watches, from the most complicated down to something altogether less than we should like to quote. They have also long been associated with the musical-box trade, in which they hold a prominent position.

This street is separated from the next by a segment of Holborn Circus, occupied by the AMERICAN WALTHAM WATCH Co. The product of this firm has made the name which the American trade enjoys to-day all over the world. Their business in this country is very greatly indeed on the increase, as everything is done in a business-like, reliable manner; and their watches are well known and highly appreciated. They are now about to bring out a new watch, of a novel construction, to be known as the Vanguard. It is a kind of compromise between the full and three-quarter plate, and with a whole catalogue of special features it is claimed to be "the finest 18-size movement in the world."

It is practically a full-plate with the balance sunk so as to be protected. The movement has all the advantages of the full-plate and capped, in being entirely covered and protected; but in thickness it is only that of the three-quarter plate, which results in a more handsome model. Not that we wish to suggest there was room for improvement in this direction, quite the contrary; the model and finish of the American Waltham is only equalled by the excellence of its movement, and it stands upon a monument looking down upon most of the other American productions in the crowd below. The company are also successfully introducing their 14-carat filled cases upon the English market.

The next turning is Thavies Inn, also largely employed by members of the trade. The firm making the greatest specialty of watches here is H. J. Cooper and Co., at No. 22. This is a house that has one great specialty, and that is, to meet every want of the Colonial trader; few firms, if any, that we know have laid themselves out so thoroughly for this class of trade, or had more experience in connection with it. It would, of course, be impossible to refer to more than a few of the lines of which they make a specialty. We are glad we do not admit prices into these columns, for if we had to write the figures they are so much lower than we have ever put upon paper that we should either think we had made a mistake or that the watch trade was doomed to destruction in a few years. Still, "we can warrant them," said Mr. Cooper, "and what more do you want?" Another specialty is a minute and seconds chronograph, which the firm has associated with the headquarters of race horses by calling it the "Tattersall." They also have some taking lines in watches, specially suitable for colonists, which rise by very small steps in price.

Continuing Citywards, we enter Holborn Viaduct, and at No. 31 we come upon the offices of Mr. Julien Tripplin, the esteemed translator of that horological encyclopædia, Saunier's Treatise and Horological Knight. The English watch trade will never repay the debt they owe to this gentleman for the invaluable services he has rendered it, not only in the translation of the above ponderous tome, but for the pains with which he brought together for comparison the methods adopted in all the Continental watchmaking schools, the whole of which were published under the title of *Watch and Clock Making* in 1889. Mr. Tripplin is also a watch manufacturer of the practical class, and, further, the London agent for the celebrated watches of Rotherham, of Coventry.

Only two doors off, at No. 33, we have the London offices of Mr. Paul Jeannot, whose other establishments are at Geneva, Chaux de Fonds, Besancon, Brussels, Berlin, and Barcelona. Amongst the firm's specialties are watches with the Kew certificate, and a certificate of similar nature, but issued from the firm's own rating department. Although this firm has not long been before the English public, it has soon established itself, and the quantity of anti-magnetic and Kew certificate watches it now supplies to the trade is almost incredible, especially in class "B," which is a state of excellence obtainable, with the firm's other productions, at a very low figure, and is a degree of perfection which few wish to exceed. They are now bringing out some new watches, of new calibre, particulars of which we hope to publish shortly.

THE GEM TRADE.

As we have previously remarked, Hatton-garden and the surrounding neighborhood is the home of the diamond trade. Messrs. Wernher and Beit, the representatives of the great diamond pool, are not *in* Hatton-garden, but on Holborn-viaduct, a street which forms a *locale* for most of the principal diamond merchants. This firm's transactions are strictly confined to diamond merchants and brokers, who obtain their "rough" first hand, just as it is shipped over to the members of the pool. A firm of first importance to our manufacturing trade is Messrs. Backes and Strauss, almost opposite to the above, at Nos. 15 and 16. On the occasion of a recent visit to this establishment we arrived before parcels were opened, and the breaking of the seals was an operation we were privileged to see, and found it so interesting that we paid several subsequent visits for the same purpose. As Messrs. Backes and Strauss did not enjoin secrecy upon us, we shall, for the benefit of our readers, describe a few things we saw. First came consignments from various parts of the world, sometimes parcels direct from the mines, and some times from jewelers and shippers abroad. The parcels we saw included many thousand carats of sapphires from Australia, some very large and really fine color; parcels of Burmah and Siam rubies, and mixed stones from Ceylon. The large parcels of rough diamonds were also extremely interesting; and we subsequently saw a large quantity sent out to the cleavers, and come back, cleaved into the octahedral shape, which, as our readers are aware, is the form of cleavage in the diamond. The diamond-cutter is a man who has to prepare himself for losses. Fancy the rough crystals, however distorted from the primitive octahedron they may be, all cleaved back to it, irrespective of loss; then imagine the further loss entailed in cutting an octahedron into the Victoria pattern! Then, when we further consider the large quantity of *boart* included amongst the output of the mines, it becomes obvious that at the price obtained for "rough" it is marvellous how cheap diamonds really are. To our mind the prices asked by this firm were but little higher than those of five or six years ago, since which time "rough" has gone up so considerably. Whilst talking of diamonds, we should like to refer to a large case in which the firm kindly allowed us to revel for a long time under the beautiful north light of one of their windows. Here were colors almost from one end of the spectrum to the other. A lovely hyacinth red of a hue that we remember selling at something like £2,000 a carat some years ago; deep greens, pinks, cinnamons, blues, to say nothing of the beautiful real canaries. We were also shown a magnificent gem, which will shortly become the property of the Czarewitch. This, with two others, weighed between 60 and 70 carats, and as specimens of cutting it was impossible to say which was the best. The former, however, had had another stir round in the blue - water, if such an expression would be allowable for a thing so perfect. It was an almost ideal specimen of a blue-white Jagersfontein of faultless cutting. Turning to small stuff, we were pleased to see such large parcels of every size increasing only about a 64th, as we were fully conscious of the extent of the original parcels from which such lots had been made up for the benefit of the diamond mounter. A 64th is "only a small breadth," it is true, but some of the roses shown us were said to go 600 to the carat, and as we did not count them, and have every confidence in Messrs. Backes and Strauss' word, we suppose we may say it is correct. We were also shown some small double-cut stuff which went into three figures the carat, and also single-cut stuff for those whose customers liked the "genuine old Indian cut." And what lovely pearls we saw, and other things too; but we must consider space, and our high rate of postage, and leave our description for future occasions.

Crossing over to Hatton-garden we make our way to No. 93, Messrs. Hahn and Co., and here we find a veritable gemmologist's paradise; case after case of fancy stones is opened to our admiring gaze. Sapphires of every imaginable hue, peridots, chrysoberyls, alexandrites—gems of the hour—opals of every description, and of a beauty that would transport one to rainbow-land, did such a locality exist; but the colors and beauties of this gem are far more real and lasting than are those originated by the falling drops of rain. We say it unhesitatingly, that the quality and beauty of this gem produced by mines opened up recently in every way transcend those known to the ancients, who from the inimitable splendors of the gems then supplied were led to regard them as the residence of the Deity, and, therefore, most desirable stones to possess, on account of the good fortune which their possession would naturally bring to the owner. The more we see of this transcendent gem the more at a loss we are to imagine how it could have been dethroned for a single hour from its pinnacle of favor, especially when we remember its ill-repute was simply originated by a novel! Chrysoprase and the "golden cornelian" also are here well in evidence, as well as the newest claimant—Sun-stone. It is well known that there is practically only one locality for this lovely gem, and for some time Messrs. Hahn and Co. have been securing all that have come into the market. The lovely sheen and brilliant decomposition of rainbow colors in this stone is another of the inimitable operations of nature; it is true that avanturine glass has long been made, but it is, at best, a gaudy, glaring, hard, monochroic glass, and in no way approaches the real gem. The quantity of pearls kept by this firm, both white and colored, is really surprising. Last, but by no means least, we would like to call attention to their catalogue, which is of rather a novel description. Here one may find shapes and sizes cut and numbered, in which stones may be had for mounting and fitting, which must prove a great convenience when ordering through the post.

Turning again to diamond-cutting, we pass through Hatton-garden on to Clerkenwell Green; where we find Messrs. Ford and Wright with machinery for cutting and polishing the king of gems that emanated from the fertile brain of no less an inventor than Sir Henry Bessemer. The work turned out is also worthy of the machinery; nothing can be seen like it in the whole diamond-cutting trade. This firm lays itself out—and has done so since the reintroduction of diamond-cutting into this country—for the very best work, and readers with diamonds to cut can send them here with the greatest of confidence, feeling assured that they will not only be done well, but that the cost will be kept low. Of late years the firm has also taken to mounting diamond goods, and of these they always have a large selection. Seeing there is no intermediate profit to be allowed for, this firm ought to be in the position to supply the trade absolutely first hand under exceptionally advantageous circumstances.

While we are dealing with Clerkenwell we might remark there are several firms engaged in the lapidist's art, some of them of the very highest order; indeed, the trade is divided between Clerkenwell and the West End, possibly the latter coming in for the greater share, and each craftsman having his own specialty. We have had considerable experience with them all. In our own collection, which probably includes the greatest number of species and rarities of any private collection in this country, most are cut by Alex. Wallace, 36, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, and for many classes of stones we consider him unequalled in the trade. Especially is this the case with cat's eyes and numerous fancy stones; rubies and sapphires are also well handled by him, and in many cases we have known him to greatly improve a fine ruby after the highest skill obtainable in the French capital had been expended upon it, while there are many gems that we know of no one else who is able to cut.

In Greek-street there is the firm of Nockold, for many years connected with the cutting of fancy stones, especially sapphires. This artificer may be regarded as a real genius in the trade, having introduced several new styles of cutting, which have since been adopted by his former apprentices. We have several gems cut by W. Newman, St. John Street-road, Clerkenwell, who for many years acted as foreman in the Greek-street house, which we have never seen anything to excel. Wardour-street also supplies several lapidists of a general character; and in Argyll-place we have Messrs. Powel, who, with improved machinery, are able to cut excellent small cabochons suitable for watch jewels or snake-eyes and other jewelry.

Naturally the gem trade is well represented in Birmingham, and many of the London firms, such as Messrs. Hahn and Co. and Aug. A. Fridlander, also have establishments in Jewelopolis. The description of these we must leave till a future occasion.

THE LONDON JEWELRY TRADE.

The jewelry trade is, geographically, perhaps more distributed than the horological. A great deal is still manufactured in Clerkenwell by such firms as Messrs. Eady, Paris, and Eady, Wingrove and Co., Harrop, Hardebeck and Bournardt, and a number of other important firms, to say nothing about countless small working jewelers. Soho, in the West End, has long been a trade colony, although it is questionable if anything like the amount of work is now turned out here that was formerly produced. Between the two localities there are very important firms, who practically have the monopoly of the best West End diamond-mounting trade. But their trade is very select, and almost exclusive. The manufacturing wholesalers and factors, on the other hand, congregate round the centre previously alluded to, in the vicinity of our head offices.

Messrs Saunders and Shepherd are located in an extremely well-constructed factory in Bartlett's-passage-buildings, a turning out of Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn-circus. The basement contains the forges, furnaces, presses, rolling mills, and other heavy machinery, and the well-lighted ground-floor is appropriated to offices and show-rooms. The upper storeys are employed for the various branches of manufacture, and store-rooms for unfinished articles. The productions of this firm are very embracing, so much so that we fear we cannot enumerate even specialties. We may say, however, that diamond work is both well executed and kept low in price, and colored gold-work—15 and 18-carat—both in novelty and finish, is a striking feature. In small silver-work—so great in demand just now—ingenuity and originality of conception stand pre-eminent. Pearl-work and rings, which form two other specialties, deserve more than a passing notice, although we regret we dare not begin, as we do not know where we should stop. A word, however, must be said upon the patent "one-piece" stud which they were the first to introduce to the trade; indeed, this being a patent, and every one stamped as such, the genuine original article is still only to be had of this firm. The popularity of this stud is astonishing, and so great has been the demand for it that Messrs Saunders and Shepherd have had to turn to making it in rolled gold. One of the greatest features in connection with the one-piece gold stud is that, should one be trodden on or otherwise damaged, the firm will give a new one for it.

In the next turning, Thavies Inn, we find the establishment of H. J. Cooper and Co., Ltd., a firm of much importance and value to the colonist, as there is no need of the colonial jeweler for which they do not cater. The first things they show us are rose diamond insect and animal brooches, which are certainly very low in price, and effective lines; the same might be said of other fichu brooches which follow. Fancy bangles next claim attention, or what perhaps might be called "dangle-bangles," as from some of these are suspended all the characters in the nursery tale of the House that Jack Built. Others are even more comical and burlesque, and would, no doubt, appeal very readily to a large class of the cheap jewelry buying community. We also notice some very cheap lines in silver boxes, and the new enamels, at very low prices. An excellent line of its character is a pencil case made in an alloy called "Auriga" metal. In this the excellent gold color of the material, coupled with the superior finish of 14 or 18 carat gold, renders it difficult to distinguish it from the genuine precious metal. The catalogues issued by this firm are veritable illustrated trade encyclopædias, the outcome of long experience with colonial and shipping trade.

Upon entering Charterhouse-street, upon the north side we find the well-fitted and well-stocked galleries of MESSRS. KING AND SONS. It is from these offices that business is transacted, the manufacturing being carried on at the old premises in Goswell-road. One of the specialties of this firm which may interest our colonial readers is their new Tortoisette, a perfect substitute for tortoiseshell; one or two of the articles made in this material are elsewhere described in this number. The other specialties extend over several of the most saleable groups of novelties, such as silver, toilet, stationery, smoking, shaving, and other sets, beautiful gallery work in silver and gilt, mirrors of all sizes in pierced gilt or silver frames, clock stands, enamel goods, and a host of useful, tasty, well-made novelties. Reference to several of these is made in our this month's "Notes About Town."

A few doors down the street, at No. 11, we find MESSRS. SIEGELE AND BENNETT, a firm that imports all the latest novelties of Continental jewelry, most of which are of their own make. One of their latest novelties is described under the heading of "New or Noteworthy." This, however, represents only one of the firm's productions, which include all kinds of jewelry. A special feature of this house is the very finest gold and metal mounted pastework. We have spent a long time looking through and admiring the excellence of their designs, and the superior finish in this class of work. But the class of goods they manufacture is not the every-day rough, obvious paste stuff; it is made and finished in a manner that would not disgrace fine diamonds, in fact it is actually fully up to average diamond work, every style of which is faithfully represented, in a manner that we venture to think would deceive many really engaged in the trade. Their beautiful paste buckles, too, call to mind the fine old French stuff, only we think that the superiority would have to be claimed for the former. Their charming little (paste) jeweled *bonbonnières* were also very nice, and charmingly artistic.

Continuing along Holborn Viaduct, we come to Newgate-street, and at No. 31 arrive at the warehouse of W. H. WALTER. There we are tempted to stay awhile, when once we begin to see the class of goods kept in stock, the more so as they are goods often difficult to get. Some of the novelties of this firm are described elsewhere, but amongst other things reference might be made to their excellent priced silver-mounted work in the hundred-and-one things to which this description of work lends itself. The silver-mounted bottles are legion, and the powder-pots and pin-boxes very numerous; some of the latter deserve a very special remark. It has doubtless been noticed by scores that the powder and other boxes for the last seven or eight years have all been made with a rough crimped flange edge, which gives the whole thing a very common tinsel appearance and sound, yet all have been open to the same objection. In the boxes which this firm show, the objection is replaced by a handsome artistic gadroon border, which gives a very superior appearance to the article. They also have a fine supply of oxydised filigree buckles and waistbands, and a patent in connection with the latter allows it to expand to any size. Chatelaine spectacle-cases, from simple Russia leather to very elaborate priced silver articles, form a large array.

While near Clerkenwell-road we must call upon MR. H. J. GLEESON, at No. 50, a very old firm, who for over half-a-century has been known as a gem and signet-ring mounter to the trade. He also lays himself out for every kind of repairs and jobbing, and the purchase of old jewelry.

If the everyday indispensable cheap goods have a great and pressing claim which must be met, so the artistic aspirations of man—whether he be engaged in the trade, or a member of the great money-spending public—will make themselves felt, and find a pleasure in the beautiful and the good which nothing else on earth can satisfy. There can be no denying that in many localities cheap and low-priced things have been made, and always will be, while in others nothing but the very best are entertained. Our experience is that the two extremes cannot exist side by side. While it can be said there are many very beautiful and some of the best specimens of skill turned out in neighbourhoods other than the West End, still the whole class of the West End trade is more uniform than that of other localities. MESSRS. CHANDLER AND SON, Newman-street, Oxford-street, show some marvellously fine examples of modelling and finish in various colors of gold and platinum and enamelled work. These are their specialties, and have been for two generations. The black oxydised and red gold curbs might possibly first attract our attention, or the assemblage of tri-colored gold work, while the endless variety of combinations of geometric curve and knot wire jewelry in various colors, in gold and the heavy blue-white metal, might also appeal to our special tastes and love of finish. The charming mosaic of various colored metals and the artistic manner in which these are brought together would be sure to delight us, while the infinite variety of the exquisitely modelled golf and other sporting brooches would be sure to be a sight never before seen; and the profusion of the golden cornelian, chrysoprase and other fancy stones might surprise us.

THE LONDON SILVER TRADE.

THE silver trade, perhaps, huddles closer together than any of the other branches, and, with the exception of a few isolated instances, the houses are all in the neighborhood already described. At the back of the General Post Office, in Angle-street, we have the old firm of J. W. BARNARD AND SON, and still closer home—in fact only a few hundred yards from Charterhouse-street — there is in Hosier-lane the old firm which flourishes under the title of MESSRS. HOLLAND, ALDWINCKLE AND SLATER. These are spacious premises, and in passing through the galleries, the heavy thuds and ring of the anvils that arise from below convince one that there is indeed such a trade as a silver*smith*, and that some branches of the trade include something more than the soldering of a piece of silver wire, and the tap of a penny hammer. These immense galleries, too, as one passes through them, and sees room after room filled with sterling metal, make one feel that one has the legendary days of Solomon returned again, when silver was accounted as worth nothing, and art productions poured in from the ends of the earth.

Another outlying firm is that of CHARLES BOYTON AND SON, Upper Charles-street, Clerkenwell. Here is an old house that we can remember from our childhood, and one with whom we have had a great deal to do. Their specialty is silver spoons and forks, which they manufacture in a variety of patterns, well finished, and at a low price. Long experience in this kind of work has resulted in the firm being able to do this class of goods in a way different from any other house with which we are familiar. Perhaps we speak from our own impressions, and Messrs. Boyton might consider the immense variety of silver cups of every size they keep in stock ought to receive the first mention. However, we should advise our readers to try the firm for both these lines, and then tell us which is the better, and if they find both equally good, let them try some other lines, such as tea-sets, cruets, and waiters.

Returning to the jewelers' quarter, at the present moment we notice extensive alterations going on at the corner of

Holborn-circus, and we are informed that when completed these are to form the new offices and warehouses of Messrs. John Round and Son, Limited, whose present address is 114 and 115, Holborn, a few doors further west. Upon a recent visit we noticed the photograph of the magnificent Liverpool Grand National Cup, that had just arrived from the works at Sheffield. A charming conception it was, standing 40in. high, of a chaste classic design, surmounted by a horse in a life-like jumping attitude. Passing round the gallery we are struck by the number of new designs in silver tea-sets, and at the remarkably low rate per ounce at which some of these come out. Messrs. J. Round and Son are a large firm, and with their superior machinery, and the colossal size of their factories, they are in a position to produce a good article at an almost ridiculously low figure. We also noticed some new patterns in candlesticks of a very superior order, something off the old lines. Silver trays also exhibit many excellent examples of the work of the engraver. A new golf toast rack, amongst many others, commanded our admiration, as it was high time we had something altogether new in this article. These are the more prosaic every-day sort of things, but when we come to the fancy articles a new sort of feeling creeps over us, and we are transported from the banqueting buffet to the National Gallery, and begin to revel in things not only useful and novel, but artistic, beautiful, and charming. The judiciously selected pottery is a study in coloring, the art productions in Worcester and Doulton ware are only equalled by the excellent designs and work and finish of the mounts, the latter now taking the form of new combinations for strawberries-and-cream, and for various fruits and flowers; and yet again for other purposes too numerous to detail. Mention must also be made of lamps, of which this firm manufacture such quantities, ranging from the simple article, hardly removed from a plain candlestick, up to elaborate giants suitable for the hall or conservatory.

The adjoining Hatton-garden also supplies us with one or two good silver houses, as does Ely-place. In Charterhouse-street they are more numerous; and after passing Messrs. King and Son, to whom reference has already been made, we next halt at Messrs. Atkin Bros., or, rather, their London branch, their manufactory being Truro Works, Sheffield. Here we stroll at our ease in an ideal gallery lighted from above, and decorated by one of our best artists, in which is arranged an immense display of stock of almost every description, to an extent which can only be obtained with streets of glass cases, as we find here. Tea and dinner sets occupy the whole of one side and end, so that the variety is very great, and case and mounted goods the other two sides, leaving the centre to large articles, such as epergnes, etc., above, and small things below. E. P. and B. M. goods are also made, as well as articles in the sterling metal, and to enumerate anything like a representative quantity of the stock would be a task in which we must not indulge.

Want of space forbids the detailed mention of several other good old firms, such as Messrs. Huken Heath, or Messrs. Hutton and Son, just round the corner, in Farringdon-road.

Retracing our steps to Holborn-circus we call in at the corner upon the old firm of Messrs. Horace Woodward and Co., whose factory is at Birmingham. We always love a ramble through these galleries, because it recalls in a moment acquaintances of a lifetime, and because the house was always associated in our rounds with artistic reliable productions, a position which amidst all the ups and downs of business life it has always been able to maintain. As to the manager, Mr. Dibley, he is just as courteous and gracious upon our present idle visits as in days of yore, when hundreds of pounds were at stake. There is also another reason why we like to drop in here, and it is because we often see the magnificent "cups" which the firm has made for other large firms. Some of these, of course, will form historic pieces, and will be grand examples of the silversmith's art of the latter part of the nineteenth century at some future date, when the whole of the existing names in the trade shall have long been forgotten, and numbered with the past and gone. The charming productions of this firm in epergnes, assiette-montes and candelabra are well known all through the trade, but the novelties which they bring out from time to time require description as time goes on, as there is always something nice and something new.

Holborn Viaduct also supplies warehouses for several other silver houses, the most important of which is the London office of Messrs. Walker and Hall.

LEATHER AND FANCY GOODS.

Clerkenwell is connected with the General Post Office by Aldersgate-street, and the first house, in connection with this branch of the trade, we reach is that of Messrs. Garstin and Co., Nos. 1 to 11, Queen-square, a turning on the west side. This firm are manufacturers of all kind of leather goods, both mounted and for mounting, such as watch belts, watch bracelets, carriage watch cases, in fact we were going to say everything that is made of animal skin, but even that would not be sufficiently expressive, when we remember the large quantity of reptile skin displayed, not only crocodile and lizard, but of the limbless order of the class, the snakes. In addition to empty leather cases for every description of articles, etui cases with modern fittings also make a large display, as well as leather alberts, amongst which we find a large number of novelties.

A few hundred yards further north brings us to Messrs. Chapman, Son and Co., 2, Charterhouse-buildings, Aldersgate-street, quite a paradise of novelties in dressing-bags, spirit and game stands, and other ingenious accessories of luxury and enjoyment. At the back one sees the factories and the skilled artisans busily engaged in the cabinet-work connected with these useful or amusing contrivances, and in the other parts of the establishment are the leather and the mounting departments. It would simply be impossible to describe the thousand-and-one things which here arrest the attention, so that we must be content with one or two allusions. In dressing-bags and cases one notices a great diversity, with continual improvements; a favorite style now is a large solid leather sort of box-bag, to hold an evening suit and sundry other articles of clothing, around the edges and in the lid of which are movably fitted all the requirements of the toilet or writing-table. These can be taken out bodily, and the bag used without them. This bag is being shown now in all the best London houses, and an illustration of it occurs elsewhere in our pages. The stationery cases and sets also vie with the dressing-bags in their number and variety, and the rate at which novelties appear. Purses and all kinds of silver-mounted goods are also equally well cared for, and as to salts and scent bottles their number is practically unlimited, while the various combinations would require quite a volume.

The establishment of Messrs. Wich and Co., in Great Titchfield-street, is so extensive and embraces novelties in so many lines that one is at a loss to know under which heading to bring them. Their chief productions, perhaps, are Art leather goods with every description of mounting—gold, silver, and metals. In purses they have a magnificent stock of all the new shades, materials and mountings, the gold and silver monograms or initial purses being good saleable lines. Amongst the leathers white morocco claims a prominent place this season. They have also applied enamels to the decoration of the delicate pink and white leathers. One line of these, a marguerite with falling petals, struck us as being exceptionally nice. Crocodile prepared white also makes a delicate and beautiful material. It would be impossible to enumerate even the novelties of this firm in fancy leather goods, but they are all high-class, artistic productions of an excellent finish, while some of the charming examples of screens, photo-frames, and that kind of thing in the new antelope skin, hand-painted and ormolu mounts, are ideals of Louis XIV. and XVI. art. Art brass work is also well represented in scores of useful and taking articles, such as inkstands and candlesticks. Another production in which artistic design is uppermost is platinised bronze. All the models in this material are new and high-class, whether they are photo-frames or figures. Some of the groups of the latter are so tempting that we can hardly pass them by without a word of admiration. One of the most artistic combinations of this work with ordinary copper-bronze takes the form of a gondolier in a gondola, some two feet long, festooned with wreaths and suitable for the reception of natural flowers, fruits, etc., while the statuettes holding electric lamps are amongst the most beautiful and original things that have yet appeared in these articles, the demand for which must greatly increase every day with the adoption of this matchless form of illumination. Oak mounted goods are also well represented, and the trays of this description are simply marvels at the price. The same may be said of the porcelain mounted trays, either the small ones for the tea-pot or the large articles suitable for a service. Another specialty of the firm is luncheon baskets which are excellently fitted, and at a moderate figure. Of the artistic wares few appeal to us more than the extremely delicate overlays of pierced and chased silver on china, the conception, treatment, and execution of which are simply charming.

TOOLS.

IF there is one fact more than another brought out plainly by history and archæology, it is that the skilful success achieved by any mechanical trade has always been the correlative of its tools, just as the private establishment a man keeps up must be the correlative of his purse. Tools are, therefore, of superlative importance, especially in the horologer's trade. We are pleased to say that we can boast of a number of excellent establishments, known as tool and material warehouses. in Clerkenwell, and the first we meet in our journey, previously described, is that of MESSRS. KOCH AND CO., of Charterhouse-buildings. Unlike some other firms, this one confines itself strictly to wholesale business, leaving its clients, the material and tool dealers, to supply the trade. This appears to us the proper way for a wholesale house to trade, and a firm which adheres to this principle strictly ought to be fully supported, as it is hardly fair for houses who profess to cultivate the wholesale trade to go to retailers as well for orders, and thus enter into competition with their own customers. In full belief in the business proverb, "The better the tools the less the labor," Messrs. Kock and Co. are continually placing upon the market improved appliances for the saving of labor and trouble. They are identified with the introduction of a number of new articles which have found lasting favor in the trade. Among the most important tools their "Triumph" Lathe is still a leading one, chiefly on account of its accuracy and perfect adaptation for any kind of work. Some very useful accessories have lately been added to the instrument, such as the wheel topping accessory, the gap bar, and others; but as it would lead us too far to describe them, we must refer our readers for particulars to the illustrated descriptive list, which is to be obtained of any tool dealer upon application. This firm is now on the point of introducing a most far-reaching reform in the watch-repairing trade, which will put an end to the confusion of main-spring gauges, and simplify the whole system of gauging and keeping stock. We consider this is such an important subject that we have given it a separate article, which all watchmakers should study. We have no doubt that every jobber with a desire to simplify matters will adopt the "Number Plate Spring" after reading the notice of it. In our last issue we described one of this firm's "Kosmo" novelties—viz., the "Kosmo repair ticket." The advantages of this novelty (an illustration of which will be found in our advertisement pages) are so apparent that it is hardly necessary to comment any more upon them; indeed, in a short time we expect to see the new repair-tab adopted by a large portion of the trade, and acknowledged as the most reliable means of preventing mistakes in the return of articles left for repair. At the same time, the ticket acts as a first-class advertisement while in the hands of the customer.

A few doors further north and we have Clerkenwell-road and Goswell-road. Near the corner of these is the excellent firm of MESSRS. GRIMSHAW AND BAXTER, names long known and highly respected in the watch trade. Elsewhere we give an account of some of their remarkable productions, which will show to what extent their tool-making powers extend. This, however, is only a single instrument, but Messrs. Grimshaw and Baxter have regard to the entire wants of the trade from the smallest article or tool up to such as those we have described. The fact is there is such a lot of things useful and new which we see at this establishment that one scarcely knows where to begin. Amongst other things we were impressed by a new mainspring-cutter with end-cutting shear, and another similar article with barrel-hook cutter. Both these tools we believe are new. For every description of tools and the so-called materials, we can recommend this firm most confidently.

Another first-class old Clerkenwell tool house is that of MESSRS. R. HASWELL AND SONS, of 49 and 50, Spencer-street. This locality is more in the heart of the old trade, lying a little further to the north-west of the last-named; and here one is beset with the same difficulty on striving what to point out as the special "specialty" of the firm. They have four or five excellent lathes, for each of which some special feature is claimed; amongst their stock can be found the "Go-a-head," "Triumph," "Boley's," "Martin," and others. They also go in for all kinds of watches and movements (finished and otherwise), non-magnetic, bracelet, and other watches. For two or three generations this firm have cultivated a foreign and colonial trade, and have, to our knowledge, shipped to America, as well as to other ports, chronometers and other things, which have brought honor and fame to men in countries where the Merchandise Marks Act unfortunately is *not* in force. All kinds of tools and requisites of a reliable quality are to be obtained here.

CASES AND SUNDRIES.

IMAGINING that we followed the route originally set out, and called upon the various firms as we met them, shortly after leaving the General Post Office we should have been attracted by the imposing clock on the west side of Aldersgate-street, which stands outside the establishment of MESSRS. POTTER AND SONS, and here, from basement to the fourth or fifth floor, can be seen things of interest to the trade. Some of the novelties of this firm are elsewhere illustrated. On the ground floor, we saw new models of shop fronts and fittings for windows and cases, which included numerous ingenious and useful arrangements, so indispensable in the much-to-be-coveted art of window dressing. Their new incised letter facias suggested themselves as being not only very imposing, but sound in principle. In these the letters are incised in solid mahogany and gilt; these are covered with a black or marbled glass with spaces which fall over the letters, so that any dust, dirt, or damp which may get in passes between the glass and the letter and so becomes invisible, and the facia remains practically ever new and fresh. On the same floor we saw a small three-cell driven motor for turning a show stand, which with three or four tiers is made to revolve slowly in the window, and thus furnishes a great attraction. In the ticket-writing department we notice numerous novelties, the celluloid gilt and silver tickets being excellent, and things to which we would call the attention of the trade, as they are everlasting wear. No jeweler would be without the catalogue of this firm once he had seen it, and the legions of fittings, hooks, bars, blocks, and everything else required for window or case fittings is overwhelmingly great. There is scarcely a want in the sundry line that has not been either met or anticipated by this firm. We passed through the various departments connected with ticket-writing, gilding, silvering, stamping, blocking, and lithographing, and we are certain that if anyone can meet the requirements of the trade in any of these lines it is Messrs. Potter and Sons.

The first turning on the west side we reach is Long-lane, and here we turn to No. 8, the warehouses of MESSRS. BORGZINNER BROS., the well-known case makers. The first thing that struck us here was the beautiful velvet fitting for a window which they had just completed. They also showed us numerous drawings of windows they had fitted. In cases for jewelry and silver goods they are not only excellent, but very low in price. We were also much taken with their improvements in paper boxes made to imitate all kinds of leather and brocade, with blocked tops, and in charming art colors. These articles come very cheap, and look infinitely better than poor leather cases. Another excellent production is their celluloid ring stands, which appear like ivory, and as nothing sets gems off better than the neutral tint of ivory, it goes without saying that these are most excellent and desirable articles. We noticed also that Messrs. Borgzinner Bros. were just perfecting some novelty in job tabs. Two of their productions we illustrate elsewhere.

There is a turning out from Charterhouse-buildings down which we turn to pay a visit to MESSRS. RASMUSSEN, WEBB AND CO. There we find an immense warehouse stored with the new celluloid watch protectors. Nothing has ever been introduced in the history of watchmaking that has taken like these watch protectors. They are transparent, light, unbreakable, dust and damp insulating, and are immeasurably superior to the old metal cases. They are all English manufacture, and we can speak of them with confidence, as we have used one now for a long time, and go with our good gold watch into the laboratory, the mill, the quarry, or the mine with impunity.

Above all we must not forget to pay a visit to the factory of MR. WALTER NATHAN, 11, Bradford-avenue, Red Cross-street, as it has been recognised as a business principle by all those large retail houses which have developed into such previously unheard-of dimensions, that money best invested is spent in window-fitting. There are houses who in this particular object spend hundreds of pounds a year, yet they find it not only pay, but that it enables them to keep ahead of their less enterprising *confrères*. The great difficulty is to produce a good design, and get it carried out well, hence the advantage of paying the above visit. This window-fitting is one of Mr. Nathan's specialties; here may be seen designs of all sorts of windows, suitable both for at home and abroad, and coverings in all the new London and Continental patterns and art colors. Here we may also see the men busily engaged in the factory upon cases of every description, from a cheap card box, through fine morocco goods, to the plate chest. Perhaps there is no house in the trade whose productions are so various, and as they are absolute manufacturers, intermediate profits are obviated.

Crossing Clerkenwell-road to MESSRS. PRINGLE AND CO., Wilderness Works, we find ourselves in an indispensably useful establishment, where we can either dispose of old metal to an advantage, gold or silver, or procure many useful articles for stock, such as small cased silver goods, and an inexhaustible variety of those indispensable things that fall under the heading of fittings materials. The firm has just issued a new edition of its illustrated price list, a copy of which we have before us. It is very original in its illustration, and in it appear representations of materials and parts with which we do not as a rule meet in lists of the same character. To the Trade, especially in the colonies, it must be a great advantage to know exactly where to get a parcel of their very useful sundries, as the possession of an assortment of them cannot fail to make jobbing especially easy and remunerative. We should advise our readers to secure a copy of this list, which they can do by forwarding their business card to the firm.

Of the handy firms with which it is desirable to make acquaintance, few can compare with JOHN WILKINS AND CO., of 11, St. John Street-road, E.C., inasmuch as the particular class of work upon which they are engaged is often needed to be done, and yet it is somewhat difficult to find anyone able to do it nicely. Their work includes all kinds of relacquering and bronzing, gilding, and plating, the restoration of old buhl, or other works of Art. Messrs. Wilkins are makers of fancy sporting clocks for prizes and presents.

Houndsditch has long been associated with the fancy and cheap electro-plate trade, and of the various firms that cluster here, special reference must be made to BARNETT H. ABRAHAMS, at No. 128. There may be seen a large stock suitable for the fancy jeweler; electro-plate, cutlery, musical-boxes, watches, clocks, bronzes, opera and field glasses, and quantities of those articles which form the staple trade of the country and colonial jeweler. The firm also produce a white metal for which great things are claimed, such as being "as hard as steel and brilliant as silver." It is made up largely into spoons and forks, and known under the name of "Star Silver."

THE OPTICAL TRADE.

THE opticians are really so numerous throughout the country that with the limited space at our disposal we find we are unable to give them anything like the space we intended. On another occasion we will begin with them first, so as to secure for them a larger share of space. As we unfortunately find ourselves situated, we shall be obliged to be content with a reference to a few firms only.

MESSRS. BOTWRIGHT AND GREY, of Clerkenwell, are exceedingly well-known to colonial buyers, for whom they have several specialties, among which we might mention their interchangeable spectacles and eye-glasses, which are designed to enable retailers to fit accurately and with a minimum of trouble any of their frames with new glasses when necessary, and thus obviating the trouble usually experienced in the thousand-and-one sizes and patterns which now exist. This, of course, is but one of the firm's specialties; their manufactures extend over all kinds of optical goods, and having had considerable experience in colonial trade (and, indeed, having offices both in Bombay and Sydney, as will be seen by their advertisement), they are well supplied with every requirement of the colonial trader.

In optical and philosophical instruments, special notice ought to be made of the barometers which MESSRS. SIMMONS AND FREDERICKS, of 19, Charterhouse-buildings, Goswell-road, manufacture, which for design, and finish and price leave nothing to be desired. In spectacles and folders they also show an extremely large stock, with ordinary goods and novelties, of English and foreign makes. Another specialty is field-glasses, in which they do an extensive business; in short, Colonial houses will find many of their wants satisfied by this excellent firm.

For a painstaking, expeditious firm, commend us to Messrs. Raphael and Co., Oxford-street. It is a most interesting sight to see the hundreds of orders they are able to post off every night in response to the same morning's mail. In their stock cabinets can be seen frames of every kind and description, following each other with such slight differences, and yet leading in such a variety of directions, that they would form a good model for an evolutionist's tree of life in geological time. Bridges there are of all heights, widths, and shapes, in each of the well-known patterns, while the shapes of lenses, if possible, vary even more; spectacles for billiard or tennis players; in fact for more classes needing special aids to the sight than one often hears of ordinarily. There was one that took our fancy specially, and that was a twisted elastic wire, with a new form of joint, whereby the objectionable metal as seen in full face is reduced to quite a ghost of a joint. Nor are the varieties of lenses anything less than could be expected to accompany such a stock of frames, every conceivable sight almost being kept in stock.

While in Clerkenwell we must by no means fail to call upon Messrs. F. Barker and Sons, 12, Clerkenwell-road. This house has been long regarded as the principal one in the trade for all sorts of compasses, barometers and all sorts of allied articles. Some other productions are elsewhere illustrated. The firm's catalogue of charms, pocket-compasses, barometers, and other of their productions is a useful hand-book of these things, and will be sent post free on application. It includes compass boxes and other fittings employed by jewelers in the manufacture of charms.

In connection with the optical trade, and especially that branch of it more immediately connected with photography, we naturally turn to the firm of James Lancaster and Son, Birmingham, who are the largest makers of this kind of articles in the world. Not only are they celebrated for holding the premier position as far as numbers are concerned, but the excellence of their productions is absolutely proverbial, while as to novelties, there is really no end. It would be condemning them with faint praise to attempt to give even a *resumé* of their inventions. We, therefore, can only refer our readers to them, as the firm supply an excellent catalogue, which is well illustrated, and replete with novelties, of which no one has heard who has not seen their productions or trade encyclopædia.

THE BIRMINGHAM JEWELRY TRADE.

History is practically made up of important achievements and developments, originating in insignificant and apparently disconnected beginnings. Upon these, important factors are brought to bear, the influence of which is far-reaching, with the result that the end is totally dissimilar from the beginning. Such was the case with the jewelry trade in Birmingham, which probably grew out of the old fancy steel buckle trade, and developed along lines which make our feelings justified in calling this place Jewelopolis despite the uncanonical etymology of the word. Naturally such a birth gave rise to a great deal of gilt and cheap-struck jewelry, most of which is still manufactured here. But as time went on a higher class of work was introduced, new firms arose on the ashes of the old ones, with new young blood embued with artistic aspirations, and an appreciation of the needs of the time. From the first, however, they were handicapped with an ill-deserved association with only cheap productions. Against this they fought hard, and have established art and technical schools, such as nowhere else exist in the country; and if anything can make a generation of artistic workmen, surely that which Birmingham is doing ought to accomplish the laudable object. We have no hesitation in saying that to-day much of the very finest work in the Trade is executed in Jewelopolis. It would be impossible to give a complete detail of all the firms and their specialties, so that we must be content in dealing with part of them. The jewelers are quite gregarious and have a colony of their own to the north of the town, which embraces some dozen or more streets, most of which lead into each other, sometimes four or five converging to a point. These will be referred to in passing the firms in review.

In the centre of the district we have the technical schools in Vittoria-street, together with numerous well-known firms. Opposite these we will make our first call at the establishment of Messrs. T. and J. Bragg. This firm has long been associated with the jewelry trade, and an original member of the firm presented to the Museum and Art Galleries an extensive series of gems, upon which, we regret, we are unable at the present to comment. Mr. J. W. Tonks is a member of this firm, and has all his life applied himself to the artistic aspect of our Trade, and has associated himself with the advancement of Art in jewelry perhaps more than anyone living. The artistic abilities of this principal have made a lasting impression upon the celebrated caskets and mayoral chains and badges, which have formed the jeweler's *chef d'œuvre* of the nineteenth century. These kinds of productions are executed for the Trade all through the Kingdom. In addition to this class of work the firm go in largely for all kinds of colored gold work, in which the patterns and finish are what might be expected from a knowledge of Mr. Tonks. Diamond work is also a specialty, and in this, as in the other part of the business, excellent taste and skill are always displayed.

Another member of the Trade who takes an unusual interest in the development and maintenance of the art and technical class is Mr. Charles Green, of the firm of Messrs. Charles Green and Son, Northampton-street. This firm has long been associated in our minds with the production of rings of every description; indeed, we know of no other which manufactures these—the most saleable of all articles of jewelry—in such numbers and variety, from good, low-priced dress and signet up to finely-executed half-hoops. Amongst the ladies' good medium specialties are fine pearl and coral rings, and in gents' signets finely-carved work.

For an extensive, general, and well-made stock, it would probably be difficult in the whole trade to find the equal to that of Messrs. Henry Griffith and Sons, Warstone-lane. Here buyers may find an unparalleled stock of 9, 15, and 18-carat hall-marked goods, every article bearing the official guarantee of the Hall. Their high-class Etruscan work is something to remember. As to the diamond work, it would probably be quite a revelation to many of our readers. In passing through the extensive factories we were recently struck by every single seat being occupied, late in the evening; a condition, which unfortunately, so far as we are aware, exists perhaps nowhere else in the trade. In the stone department the large quantities from which the goods are made can, in some respects, answer for the fine matching and graduation which one notices in the manufactured stock. When we come to mounting we have something else to delight our eyes; it is always such a pleasure to see the realisation of one's ideal; there is so much of the boring of a hole and putting a stone in it, even in the good quality stuff! There is no reason for this, as we have often pointed out, and as is still more forcibly emphasised by the productions of this firm. Here we see the openings at the backs of rings not mere drill-holes, but geometric designs, with a finish that leaves criticism impossible, and results in jewels that any house in the Trade might be proud to sell. Another element of success in a good business is, we venture to think, ingenuity and originality; of these we can also see a large display at this establishment, where we recently saw a beautiful diamond spray which took to pieces, and formed no less than fifteen different articles.

Here, also, not very long ago we saw a 10oz. cigar case, and a cigarette of smaller dimensions, made from the precious yellow metal and diamonds, the pattern and execution being charming. For variety of design it is hard to say to which to give the palm, whether rings, brooches, or bracelets; in two things, however, they are equal, and those are the excellence of finish and originality of design. In passing through this factory recently we made a couple of pages of notes, but we see we have only been able to touch upon a few of them. We regret we are able to do such small justice to so important a firm, as there is no novelty now before the trade with which they do not deal.

From Messrs. Henry Griffith's we cross the street to another imposing building—that of Messrs. Manton and Mole, an excellent high-class firm. The productions of this house cover all kinds of colored gold-work of good descriptions; a great specialty also being bright and colored gold alberts, into which they go very heavily. Diamond-work is also a main feature of their trade, amongst which a great deal might be said for their diamond ring productions. In some of their half-hoops recently through our hands we were impressed with their good carving and finish. Marquise and fancy rings greatly interested us, while the setting and finish in flush-set gipsies was what we consider such things ought to be, but, alas, seldom are.

Continuing up Warstone-lane we cross Frederick-street, to which we must again return; but confining ourselves to the jewelry trade we call upon Messrs. John Allday and Son, an old firm that has long had a good connection with the colonies. Here amongst the gold work we are struck by numerous most excellent novelties. Prominent amongst these is a patent bracelet of such a pattern that a detachable chain is made a receptacle for a fan or programme, a desideratum often experienced. Their double-heart lock bracelet is also excellent, both in principle and design. In gold fichus there is also a charming variety. On the occasion of a recent visit we were extremely surprised at the sight of some Indian and Australian orders, one of these consisting of long bright earrings of patterns fully five-and-twenty years old, and the other of diamond cabinet brooches of just about the same period, or even a little before, in fact the first Exhibition period. Their diamond goods were also well finished. But a specialty that gave us an unusual amount of pleasure was their stock of baroque-bouton, and other curious pearls. Here we saw an unparalleled display of these things; curiosities of the animal-gem world, whose fantastic shapes would form the subject-matter for ingenious designers, as some of these reach a length of over an inch, and simulate now the body of a camel, now an elephant's head, now the breast and tail of a mermaid, and now a monstrosity of the vegetable world. This old firm deals largely in this kind of curiosities.

Crossing the street again we halt at the establishment of Messrs. N. C. Reading and Co., whose specialty is "albo silver," a substitute for the standard metal. The metal is quite unlike any other of the imitations of silver, as the popularity it has attained easily proves, for even scientific metallurgists regard it as a most important alloy, and the Mason Institute exhibit it as such in their museum. It is chiefly employed in the manufacture of alberts of every description, albert appendages, vesta-boxes, and many other small articles, and the style and finish introduced into these articles is really surprising. The firm also manufacture gold-plated articles in large numbers.

Turning again down Vittoria-street, we arrive at Regent-place. The first house upon which we will call is the imposing premises of Mr. Henry H. Aston. Perhaps no one in the trade, outside Birmingham, would really believe that this large establishment is solely engaged, as it has been for a very long period, in the manufacture of wedding-rings. Usually these are regarded as quite a minor branch of the jewelry business, but a visit to this factory and a journey through the various departments would show us that a good wedding-ring really requires as special a care as any other article of jewelry, indeed, more so than many. The gold itself requires special care in melting, and there are several processes which require very special appliances that cannot possibly be found in the all-round jeweler's, hence a firm like this is naturally prepared to turn out better wedding-rings than one who makes them in a small way, or only amongst other of their products. We have long known the kind of rings turned out by this firm, and can testify to their excellent finish. The firm also make 9-carat Hall-marked wedding-rings, a line in great requisition in many colonies, but difficult to obtain.

Another Regent-place firm is that of Messrs. John Goode and Sons, one of whose specialties is gold chains of every description. We have had the pleasure of handling these productions for many years in enormous numbers, and can testify to their quality and excellency of finish. This wire work is naturally extended—and that with uncommon success—to curb bracelets and brooches, of which the firm has a magnificent stock. Keepers of all varieties and qualities also go to make up the staple trade of the firm, the work, pattern, and price of which we will be responsible for giving the greatest satisfaction.

Our next halt is at No. 26, Frederick-street, at the warehouses of Mr. A. Sydenham. Here we find a large stock of American watches of every size, character, and description, arranged in a most systematic and original plan, and one that would, no doubt, commend itself to all holders of large stocks of watches, as by it a customer can be shown any article required without opening and closing boxes. In the next department we are confronted with piles of badges and medals in numbers scarcely credible; and what a sale for these things there must be, and what a show one can now get in them for a few shillings! But there are, of course, medals *and* medals, and in these articles there is, unfortunately, perhaps more "cutting" just now than in anything; and this, of course, must mean neglect of finish. The medals found here bear a thorough examination as to make and finish, while as to many of the designs, they are quite artistic productions. Another feature which might interest a visitor is the immense number of these articles made in the precious metal. The price to which they are brought would surprise, and even, perhaps, shock the last generation. Many of these, however, are goods upon which any house in the trade might stake their reputation, although the prices are little more than used to be quoted for silver. Another specialty of this house is cheap, low-priced rings, both fancy and signet. Of these Mr. Sydenham claims a stock of 5,000, while so far as numbers are concerned the silver name brooches can take the palm of anything ever seen, even including silver thimbles, which are made by the peck. This house lays itself out for special Colonial trade, and its offices are divided up geographically, this being the department for England and Wales, this for Ireland and Scotland, and this for the Colonies.

The continuation of Frederick-street is Vyse-street, and at Nos. 3, 4, and 5, we find the establishment of Messrs. C. Payton and Son, Pepper, Payton and Co., and Acott and Co., which may be regarded as three branches of one immense old firm, which originated away back in the commencement of the jeweler's art in Birmingham. They are, of course, absolute manufacturers, and there is certainly not a single day throughout the year in which they do not bring out new patterns. Their productions include all kinds of diamond work, colored gold, bright gold and silver; in fact all articles which one may regard as absolute jewelry. We have long done business with this firm, and are pleased to be able to speak with every confidence of them and their productions. Unfortunately for the present purpose their lines and specialties are so various that they cannot be detailed, and can only be expressed in the sweeping terms we have employed for them.

Our next call is upon Messrs. Nathan Bros., 120, Vyse-street. This firm originally supplied the wholesale trade only, and worked solely for the Trade. This state of things, however, is gradually dying out, as the manufacturers consider that when a factor starts making any particular article he ceases to be a factor pure and simple, and, as a consequence, the latter is threatened to be driven either into manufacturing or else out of the field altogether. Messrs. Nathan Bros. are well known, and enjoy a good reputation in the Trade, so that their appeal to the retailers will be pretty well sure of a hearty response. They make a specialty of rings, which include paste goods, cheap 9-carat signets, and rings of a better character. It is of the latter that we naturally like to talk the most, and these things we feel fully justified in reporting in the very best of terms. The finish of the diamond work is good, and the price low. When we come to pearl work we easily realise that the Trade will now be able to obtain some of those goods formerly obtainable only through the factors, and in this class of work their productions are really good and well finished. Their repairing department too must have a word, as they do a large jobbing trade, and as they have a large staff of men on stock work, which can easily be put upon jobs should influx in this branch occur, they are able to return goods the same day, which is their standard rule.

The next manufacturer upon whom we call is Mr. Samuel Hope, 126, Vyse-street. Here wedding-rings and wedding-rings alone are made. We have on several occasions had the opportunity of pointing out, how much more there is in a wedding-ring than is even sometimes realised by an ordinary member of the trade; a nicely drawn, a nicely shaped, a nicely made, and nicely finished wedding-ring is indeed a consummation greatly to be wished for, and whosoever seeks for these will not always find them, unless he goes to such a firm as that under consideration.

Continuing down Vyse-street, passing many members of the trade to whom we should like to refer, we arrive at Hylton-street, or what might more properly be called Hylton-crescent. Here at Nos. 48 and 50 are the factories of Mr. T. Walter Jones, of "Castle" link fame. The action of this link is so simple and safe, and it has secured such an unparalleled success, that scarcely a word need be said upon these points. If we took a journey—and journey it is—from the warehouses in the spacious yard, where the raw shell and other materials are received, into the packing-rooms, we might be tempted to think that every man in the world was using the "Castle" link. Recently we certainly enjoyed this tour very much, and the various machines in operation upon this simple article forcibly bring to mind the machinery of the modern watch manufacturers. There were upwards of a hundred hands employed upon producing these famous cuff-fasteners, and the perfection of the sanitary arrangements of the factory was an absolute marvel; every bit of dust is drawn away as it is made, and the whole place is more like a drawing-room than a factory. These links and studs are made in a variety of materials, all kinds of shell, plated, silver, agate, blood-stone, in fact, in about 3,000 different patterns.

Opposite Hylton-street is the establishment of Messrs. T. Perks and Son, 84, Vyse-street. This old firm has long been connected with the manufacture of bright gold and other jewelry, in addition to which they have of late years turned their attention to the fabrication of aluminium. Their artistic productions in this, the feather metal, are amongst the most artistic objects ever turned out in this country. They have recently been engaged in employing this metal of the future for many kinds of surgical instruments, as well as for articles for the toilet, the writing-table, the mantelpiece, luncheon-baskets, chains, and articles far too numerous to mention. We have so often sung the praises of this new metal and are so impressed with it that space forbids us recommencing the subject here.

Vyse-street empties itself into Great Hampton-street, where we soon notice some Gothic architecture, which gives the name to the factory of Messrs. P. Vaughton and Son, some of whose specialties we mention under medals. But the work of the firm embraces all kinds of jewelry work, in much of which it really excels.

A house which might be visited with interest and profit is that of Mr. J. Langdale, 7, Caroline-street Here we might see in course of manufacture that unique brooch without either hook-catch or joint, and seeing these are practically the only parts that ever break in a brooch, we are tempted to wonder why all brooches are not made upon Langdale's Patent principle. The brooches are made by this firm in a variety of patterns, in gold, silver, gilt, and jet. Historically and theoretically, we regard this principle as one of the most original—if not *the* most original—in connection with the fastening of the brooch, while its merits are so obvious that they do not require pointing out.

On no account can we omit that important branch of the Trade to which we are indebted for our crude material—viz., the refiner. Of those firms engaged in this special line in Jewelopolis we would refer to Messrs. Charles Westwood and Sons, 14, Hall-street, who are not only refiners and dealers in all kinds of precious metals, but who also include "jewelers' requisites" of every description in the articles with which they are able with advantage to supply the Trade.

Whether our interest centres upon the jewelry or watch-making trade we must under no conditions fail to proceed to Handsworth, which is a little beyond the main jewelers' quarter, as it is here at Terrace-road that we find the firm of Messrs. Dennison, Wigley and Co., the well-known manufacturers of watch-cases of every description, and sovereign-purses. In connection with the latter articles there has been a lot of very inferior stuff put upon the market; although a sovereign-purse is so little different from a watch case that it is the natural province of the case-maker—and the case-maker alone—to make it. Hence the superiority of sovereign-purses made by this firm. These articles are made by Messrs. Dennison and Wigley in immense numbers for the factors, but they also supply the Trade direct. The patterns are exceedingly numerous, in both gold and silver. As to watch-cases it would be a breach of confidence, we suppose, to quote the watchmakers whom they supply, but readers can place every reliance upon the work and product of this firm.

THE BIRMINGHAM SILVER TRADE.

The E.P. and silver trade of Birmingham is somewhat extensive, but we regret that space precludes the mention of many firms, and those which we select must be those who go in more for the manufacturing of smaller silver articles, such as form so important a part of a jeweler's stock of to-day.

Commencing near the same point as for the jewelry trade we make our first call upon Messrs. Horton and Allday, Nos. 195 and 196, Warstone-lane, and here we are inundated with novelties, to describe which would be impossible; we must, therefore, be content with reference to a few. The first thing that strikes us is the beautiful silver-pierced work. This is not mere stamping, but absolute piercing and carving. This is made up into a number of patterns of toilet-sets, in which the rim and scroll ends of the brush-tray are fixed on by a patent method, which it is surprising to think was not adopted generations ago, as this system entirely does away with the faulty plaster. The same principle is applicable to toilet bottles. Another novelty is a string-box for the study or ladies' room; it is beautifully pierced and carved, and carries at the top a small cutter: it is a very handsome and taking little article. We also noticed a charming improvement in a lady's travelling curling lamp. This ingenious contrivance closes up to the size of an ordinary cigar case, yet holds almost as much spirit as a far larger lamp. The fashionable real tortoiseshell goods are made in large numbers, or rather, as is usually the case, the shell forms a veneer upon a more solid base. They include glove, handkerchief, post-card, and other boxes, and various other new and useful articles. Match-boxes, cigarette and cigar-cases also exist in immense numbers; inkstands, with novel attachments for the reception of pens; in fact, as we said at the beginning, the things are too numerous to mention. Most of these new designs are traceable to the influence of the Birmingham Art Classes. The firm make it a condition of apprenticeship that every lad passes the examinations of the art and technical schools. If every employer did this the artistic productions of the trade would soon show further signs of improvement.

MESSRS. STOKES AND IRELAND are manufacturing silversmiths and art metal workers, of 83, Great Hampton-street, and amongst the taking little novelties to which they recently called our attention, we were greatly struck by some of their faithful reproductions of antique and historic spoons, which together with the souvenir spoons form a grand and diversified display. Another great feature we noticed was ash trays, of which the number is also very great; the popular heart, diamond, club, and spade frequently occurring, and these with a gadroon edge form a really handsome, though inexpensive, effective little article. The firm has also introduced pebble work once more into small silver articles, for which it is so eminently suitable. An interesting little novelty is an oak of one's own growing; for this purpose the firm supplies little silver tubes in which an acorn is placed and supplied with water, and from these can now be seen growing at their offices trees in full leaf a foot high.

MESSRS. E. S. BARNSLEY AND CO., of 45, Frederick-street, are an important firm in the precious white metal trade, and manufacture largely for the best London houses. It is not always, or perhaps we might even say *often*, that the mantle of the father falls upon the son, but in this case assuredly it has done so, and as the work of the father will always stand a monument of Birmingham's glory in the nineteenth century, so we may expect that of the son to do, so far as the silver work is concerned. Amongst the many very fine specimens of the silversmith's art we saw on a recent visit, we must notice a beautiful Louis XV. cup, standing some 26 inches high complete. In design this was carried out as it should be, and its finish was of a most excellent character.

THE BIRMINGHAM CLOCK TRADE.

THE factory of W. F. EVANS AND SON, Soho Works, Handsworth, is one of extreme importance in the trade, and originated away back in the very early days of clock-making. Here may be seen every operation from the casting and forging of the metal to the finishing of the movements. Turret work of every description is carried out for the Trade, as it has been for generations. Here may be seen the various castings, dials, etc., ready for the execution of all sorts of orders as they arrive. This firm does not appeal to the public, and hence its name is not so well-known to the latter as to the Trade. Passing on to grandfather's clocks, we may speak in the superlative without fear. These are sent out from the factory, not by ones or twos, but by absolute hundreds at a time, and the variety is simply surprising. We recently saw one of their productions standing over 9 ft. high, the description of which, case and movement, would require at least a page. But everyone does not require things so elaborate. Thoroughly good and reliable English dial movements, or at most bracket-chimers, form the staple articles of every-day trade, and of these the firm make incredible numbers, many of which bear the most popular names all through the country. Perhaps no English clock firm ever did so large an export trade as this. We were recently informed by a friend visiting the United States that he noticed a number of this firm's productions being shown as examples of how Cousin Jonathan could lick the Britisher! We have ourselves noticed the American Trade Press extolling the chronometers *made by* certain American firms, when to our own knowledge those very instruments had been made in this country and shipped from Clerkenwell.

MESSRS. SWINDEN AND SONS, of 27, 28 and 29, Temple-street, were amongst the very first to turn their attention to the grandfather's clock trade, and the magnificent display they have recently made at the industrial exhibition at Birmingham has won for them great admiration. Here may be seen some grand old giants 9ft. high, with the cases carved in the most elaborate fashion, and movements performing their duty upon bells, gongs and Harrington's tubes. Their specimens of bracket-clocks and timesters suitable for the inside of public edifices are worth a journey to see, and something to be proud of when seen.

MESSRS. G. AND F. E. WATTIS, of Lower Temple-street and Stephenson-street, are a firm that it is extremely handy to know, inasmuch as they can supply so large a number of articles, such as constitute the stock of the ordinary watchmaker and jeweler, without necessitating a running about to no purpose. If anyone has a given amount, for which he requires the greatest number of articles with which he could expect to do business, he would do well to pay a visit to this establishment. These might include various descriptions of bracket and wall-clocks, regulators, French, marble, and other clocks, English, Swiss, and American watches, E.P. of the firm's own special manufacture, French, German, and American optical goods, wall armour, the new decorations in art-bronze figures. In the latter the subjects are fresh and the treatment and colors extremely novel. In the latter the body color is like silver as it just comes out of the pickle pot, the faces of the figures are light oxydised silver, and the vestments old gold; the effect is one which will be highly appreciated. The things enumerated here, however, do not complete the list, but we are sure Messrs. Wattis will be pleased to put themselves in correspondence with any of our readers.

THE ART OF THE DIE SINKER.

BIRMINGHAM has long been celebrated for its die sinkers, and probably when London, following in the wake of the former great world capitals, lies buried in the dust, some of the works of these old artists will be cherished by a set of antiquaries who will not know Joseph. This quotation unintentionally introduces to us a name that the Museum and Art Gallery Committee have been pleased to honor. Soon after reaching the portals of this excellent edifice one sees the portrait of the late Joseph Moore, a medallist, who, as shown by the specimens in the museum itself was a craftsman of whom Birmingham may be justly proud. There are still several medallists who might naturally think their productions on an equality with those of Moore, but in Hibernian language they must wait till they are dead to see how their work will be appreciated.

While speaking of Moore, we are reminded that MR. A. FENWICK, of Augusta-street, was twenty-one years with this old craftsman, and is naturally responsible for many of the fine examples turned out by Moore's firm. Customers will find the Augusta-street premises well worth a visit, and see many things to interest them, and if they have wants in this line they will probably get well suited, especially if they be for medals of the very best finish suitable for football, photography, cycling, golf, music—in fact almost any subject. If, on the other hand, it is a case of the cutting of special dies, we are now at the right place, as Mr. Fenwick is not a simple factor, but an absolute medallist and die sinker, and when we say this, it means that he is able to execute any order that may be entrusted to him. He also publishes a very beautiful sheet of reproduced photographs of medals of various descriptions, suitable for framing and placing in a prominent position in any first class retail house.

The firm of P. Vaughton and Son, Gothic Works, has for many years been turning its attention to the higher development of the die sinker's art, until it now secures much of the very highest class of work that is done, as is evidenced by the medals and badges which can be seen in such great profusion at the offices. Another specialty of the firm is religious badges of every description, and the examples of these things which have been executed by it would form quite a museum, interesting alike to the Art student and the historian. As might naturally be expected, Masonry claims a large share of attention, and medals and badges of every description in connection with the craft are provided. While speaking of Messrs. P. Vaughton and Son, we might also now refer to the silver challenge shields they produce, which are marvels of display and Art at very low figures. All round the offices one sees the colored drawings of caskets, ceremonial keys, hammers, spades, and such like things, which also form one of the firm's specialties.

THE COVENTRY WATCH TRADE.

Coventry is *par excellence* the city of watches, and horology is one of its most important, if not *the* most important branch of its trades. In the early days of the industry a cheaper grade of watch was turned out here, which did not claim so good a name from point of excellence. Subsequently this gave way to the manufacture of the higher and better class article, and the large proportion of watches which found a place amongst the highest published awards at Kew in the last list show how entirely this earlier state of things in Coventry has changed. The watch manufacturers in the city of Peeping Tom may be divided into three classes. First, those who make the very finest hand-work, which includes complicated watches and high-class rated watches—articles which will never be made by machinery. Secondly, others who make good, sound, English work by hand; and, finally, the factories in which every kind of machinery is adopted.

Prominent among the factories here, and, indeed, amongst the like establishments in the world, stands out that of Messrs. Rotherham and Sons. Here every operation is performed from the forging and melting of the materials to the supplying of the retailer. It is, however, with the last operation that the firm ceases. Unlike many of the large establishments, this grand old concern has developed, while preserving its old traditions. It has always had the very best houses in the trade to supply with un-Rotherham-named watches, and hence in whatever improvements—and these are exceedingly numerous—that have been introduced, excellence has always been the principal factor. The entrance to Messrs. Rotherham and Sons' is suggestive of an Arabian Nights tale. It is like a hole in a rock leading to an Imperial palace, and the effect upon one passing down the narrow court of the almost mediæval Spon-street into the open square below, surrounded by the immense colonnades of buildings, separated by ornamental grounds, is only excelled by the almost endless displays of delicate and ingenious machinery, upon which one is privileged to gaze, to wonder and admire, in passing through the various departments. It would be impossible here to do anything but the faintest justice to Messrs. Rotherham or to attempt to give a description of their factories, seeing that in every department there are ingenious improvements made and new processes in operation for the securing of the great object at issue, especially as these commence with the handling of the crude metal, and do not end until the invoice leaves the office. Everything except the glass is made here—machinery, cases, accessories, and dials. There is one peculiarity, shall we call it, about the lines upon which this factory exists which is absolutely unique. This is an old firm celebrated years ago for the manufacture of those superb timesters which gained for England her reputation as the producer of the first watches in the world. These were produced upon well known lines which, alas, are elsewhere being gradually abandoned! But at this factory the new system has developed alongside the old one. The high-class old trade has always been maintained and constitutes a prominent feature, and the subjective effect of this has been, that it has led to the study of not how to introduce the most labor-saving and cost-reducing machinery, but how to produce the very best watch, with the longest life, and the easiest and cheapest of repair; and with the extraordinary improvements of machinery and methods, cost has been correspondingly decreased. With this excellent product they content themselves by appealing direct to the trade, and, unlike many other large concerns whose sole object is low price, they do not appeal to the public direct. This business policy, we think, will commend itself favorably to the trade as a commercially loyal one, and one that is deserving of every support. The further effect of this is that in all neutral markets the productions of this firm are able to hold their own. Want of space forbids more detail connected with this factory at the present; this, however, we hope to give in the near future, and so we will turn to the firm's excellent catalogues, which we are sure will prove invaluable to the trade. First that relating to watches: this is replete with illustrations, descriptions and prices, such as will enable a customer to order by wire or post any articles required. There is also another feature in the catalogue illustrative of the system upon which the firm does its business. With their productions they issue certificates of two grades, the wording of which is based upon that of Kew, but instead of being just merely "adjusted"—which ought to mean a lot, but alas! sometimes means but little—the absolute figures are quoted: in fact the results of other important factors are quoted, which are not notified in the Kew document. The other catalogue refers to parts and materials. These are well illustrated and classified; thus all parts, say of the train, keyless parts, escapement and springing, are each separated, named, and priced; and as all these are made perfectly interchangeable, the least amount of trouble possible is experienced in effecting repairs.

A little further along Spon-street, and through another of those characteristic small entrances, we find the Coventry Movement Manufacturing Company, Ltd. This company has been in operation for some years, under the chairmanship of Mr. Samuel Yeomans, who thus acts in the dual capacity of manufacturer himself and chairman—and, so far as one can see, managing director—to the Movement Company. First, as to the factory: here may be seen some excellent machinery in operation in that all-important and indispensable department, tool-making, which, of course, means machine making; for it is obvious that every time a machine is invented to perfect a process it must be made and understood by the inventor, who will not only introduce it but teach others its use. The tool—or machine—shop, then, is of paramount importance in the modern machine watch-making factory. Many of the tools here are on the lines of the most improved American patterns, others are further improvements upon them, while yet others are new conceptions. One thing that must strike one in passing through a modern watchmaker's factory is the enormous cost of machinery; formerly, with he exception of two or three tools, the rest of the things necessary were quite insignificant, but now to be able to produce any new pattern of watch—well, something between £700 and £1,000 may be expected to be required. This company can offer eleven different sizes of movements and four different sorts, so that with the good character that can be given them they ought to recommend themselves to the wholesale trade. This is a movement company simply, and their products are often afterwards engraved with the good names of the trade. We cannot help feeling that its able and genial chairman is to be highly congratulated upon the success he has achieved, and the good article he is able to produce at the price, in the face of the great obstacles and opposition against which he has had to contend. The movements made by the company are good, sound, useful articles, and include several special features in their construction, adopted with a view of making the movements as good as possible at the price.

Turning to the factory of Mr. S. Yeomans himself—also approached by a neighbouring characteristic Spon-street entrance—we here find an old friend of our boyhood's days, the business having been established over thirty years. For many years he has cultivated a good trade with India and the Colonies, where his goods are as well known and appreciated as in this country. The house has long been associated with high-class keyless work, and the number of Kew A certificated watches in stock attest to the fact that in this important and difficult part of the business energies are rather on the increase than otherwise. We remember a case where one of the productions of this factory obtained 19·1 marks for temperature out of a possible twenty at Kew. Mr. Yeomans has recently brought out a special going barrel-watch, with a safety centre-pinion and detachable barrel (so that a main-spring can be replaced in five minutes), at a very moderate figure.

Continuing our route along Spon-street to Spon End, we arrive at the establishment of Messrs. Hill and Co., a very old name in the Coventry trade, taking us back three generations, and in the Coventry test of thirty years ago the firm secured the coveted award. Their specialty consists of gold keyless work, and cheap going-barrels. High-class work, including such as obtains the A certificate at Kew, and anti-magnetic work, also receives special attention. This old firm is well-known, especially in the North of England, where its productions are well appreciated. They have recently introduced a new 17 size English lever, which includes a larger and deeper barrel, which is also detachable; a new safety pinion which is screwed on the arbor, to prevent the breaking of pivot in the case of breakage of main-spring. Further, the stud can be readily slipped out without unpinning when the watch is cleaned.

The firm of Mr. C. J. Hill is the second oldest in the whole Coventry trade, being established in 1815. The high civic dignity attained by the head of the firm is evidence of the great esteem in which he is held in the watch city. During the greater part of a century this firm has been producing high-class English watches, such, indeed, as have helped to build up a name for English levers all over the world, and it still continues to produce those reliable good and medium watches, upon which anyone might be proud to see their name inscribed. Those requiring a low price and nasty wares will have to seek a different market from Russell House. But those who need a genuine, reliable timester will do well to extend their journey to the above factory.

A south-easterly dash into the country brings us upon a charming open common, at Earlsdon, and here, far from the busy haunts of men, surrounded by the quiet of nature, with nothing to distract the attention of those engaged on those marvels of mechanism—high class, and complicated watches—is situated the old family mansion in which is conducted the business of Messrs. J. White and Son. When one experiences the somewhat solemn silence that here reigns, owing to the location, and the absence of the clatter of machinery, one is able to realise how it is that so many of this firm's productions score so high in "the Kew 34." Of these, as tabulated in the last report, this firm claim no less than eight, and in English levers they stand first, and are only a few decimals behind the foreign-made tourbillon. Comment upon such results as these is hardly called for.

A walk now in a northerly direction brings us to the Butts. Here are located several watch factories, being separated from Spon-street by an area upon which are raised probably the largest factories in Coventry, viz., those connected with the cycle trade. As our readers are aware, many of the early developments in this line originated with members of our trade; and as many jewelers and watchmakers make these saleable, and by many believed to be indispensable, accessories to locomotion a side line, they are of special interest to the trade. The description of these, however, we must leave for a future occasion. The first establishment we will stop at is that of Messrs. Newsom and Co. This firm has long been associated with high-class work, and are still making a great specialty of adjusted and Kew certificate watches. In their drawers may now be seen numbers of gold timesters of various descriptions that have passed through the Kew ordeal. This firm has also long cultivated a colonial trade, and it might quite interest a Londoner to see the show they are able to make of full-plate and even pair case watches. Many of the colonies, and even the North of Scotland still find a sale for these old staple lines. Miners' and railway watches are also very largely made. Amongst other favorites one might mention a good cheap going-barrel English lever, with safety wheel, which acts like a safety pinion. This has already been described by us. Another is a ¾ plate in 12, 14, and 16 size with triquet spring, which is a really good saleable line and very cheap at the price. The majority of the work done here is done by hand, and in examining a piece of shaping and polishing done by the very best machinery and comparing it with a similar part executed entirely by hand, we were more than ever impressed with the significance of Lord Kelvin's recent remarks, in connection with the skill of the horologer; yet this is a case where machinery ought to have been able to have left hand work quite out of sight.

The firm of James Richardson, Carlton House, Holyhead-road, is a very old one, carrying us back to the last century. During all that long period this house has held a good reputation in the Trade, and at present makes a specialty of ¾-plate centre seconds and good English work, both keyless and non-keyless. They also publish a good illustrated catalogue, which will be found of special interest and value to our Colonial readers.

There are several other Coventry firms whom we ought to have noticed, but these we must leave for fuller description on another occasion. Messrs. T. E. Fridlander, for instance, stand extremely high for high-class watch success. Mr. Josh Player, Mr. P. Cohen, and Messrs. Pearson and Sons also make specialties of these things, and in so doing score great success.

THE SHEFFIELD TRADE.

Sheffield is justly styled the City of Silver and Steel, as in it are located the principal factories connected with these important industries. To do anything like justice to a description of the silver and E.P. trades of this city would require a large volume, so that we shall have to be content with only a very few references. Amongst large firms there are quite a number, such as Messrs. Walker and Hall, Atkin Bros., John Round and Son, Hutton, Hammond and Creake, and others, which would require a lot of space to deal with separately and thoroughly, which we regret we have not at our disposal.

Amongst the large firms to which we must call special attention is that of **Messrs. John Round and Son**, Tudor Works. This factory has long been celebrated for its splendid machinery, and the extent to which it is able to turn out spoons and forks has been quite the envy of the trade. The silver branch is still larger, and the quantities of new pattern tea sets, epergnes, candelabra, and general silversmithy that is turned out here is really enormous. The firm has long had a magnificent connection with theColonies, as indeed a factory of these dimensions could only be maintained on a widely distributed and extensive trade. The goods they produce are of excellent and reliable quality. The patterns are new, fashionable and artistic, and the finish leaves nothing to be desired.

Another firm that calls for special notice is that ot **Messrs. Hammond, Creake, and Co.**, St. Mary's-road, principally because they manufacture a class of goods which is extremely saleable, and which can rarely be bought from the absolute maker. These goods are what are usually known as oak-mounted, and consist largely of spirit-stands of innumerable patterns, buffet and hall garnitures, such as gongs, trays, and things of that sort. In novelties it would be hopeless to enter into descriptions, seeing they are so numerous and varied, and so many of them really so taking. The goods are all mounted with either sterling silver or E.P.N.S., and can be thoroughly relied on both for make and finish.

Another house of importance in the Optical Trade is that of **Messrs. Chadburn Bros.**, Albion Works, Sheffield. This firm is well-known for its optical lenses of every description, which it is needless to observe form so important a factor in optical goods generally. They also manufacture in very large quantities all descriptions of spectacles, telescopes, and, in short, almost every conceivable description of optical goods.

Several Sheffield houses receive full notice under the heading of the London Silver Trade.

THE PRESCOT FACTORY.

It is impossible to do anything like justice to this remarkable modern enterprise in the short space at our disposal; its history and transactions have been detailed from time to time in these columns, but for the benefit of our new Colonial readers we might observe that there was formerly at Prescot, as at Coventry and Clerkenwell, a colony of watchmakers. At this time things were done on the out-door or garret system. Subsequently an enterprising Coventry firm began to start machinery which made such revolutions in modern watchmaking and had such an important bearing upon the future of the trade that it required no very deep inspiration of prophecy to be able to see that the end of the Prescot watch trade as then carried out was well in sight. Then, with the organising spirit of a Rhodes, **Mr. T. P. Hewett** sought to save Lancashire by starting, from a nucleus composed of some of the old businesses, a colossal factory equipped with all requirements for the production of watches at such a price as to be able to compete not only with other factories in this country, but on the Continent and America. Such beginnings were naturally very much handicapped and expensive, and necessitated a large expenditure of capital; but soon the thing grew and developed; department after department was added, tool-making, case-making—in fact,the crude materials now go in at one end of the factory and come out finished watches at the other. It is not hard to prophesy what the influence of this great concern will be upon the English watchmaking industry. Of course it has been uphill work, and in studying the vested interest of the trade, Manager Hewett has probably been called upon to spend considerably more money than would have been the case had he dashed in, totally irrespective of the trade and feelings of others, as an ordinary company would have done. But he has now been able to produce a most excellent watch, at a price which must command for it a prominent and in many ways a premier position in the world. It is this great fact that alone concerns the trade. If the Prescot Company were even over-capitalised to such an extentas to require reconstruction, that would have no objective effect upon the case, but might enable them to produce watches even cheaper still. Whatever may be our position in the case, to whatever extent the success of the Prescot factory may mean a drawing away of the trade from this or that quarter, we must admit that, with the development of machine work in Switzerland and America, a phase in the history of watchmaking has been reached which can only be successfully grappled with by shooting ahead of other competitors. It is only a natural law in the commercial world that whoever does this most successfully will come out the most victorious; in fact, it simply resolves itself into a case of the survival of the fittest. And here, using a Darwinian expression, we might remark the word "fittest" must be taken in its Darwinian sense, not as necessarily implying what we ordinarily understand as the *best*. That the Prescot product is a marvel at the price all must admit; and, in fact, so far as we have heard, all the trade really do acknowledge it as such. Mr. Hewett has expressed himself confident that, with his watch made on the highly-approved English lines, he is able to successfully compete with any foreign production. Of course, we do not mean to imply that only one particular line is produced by this factory, but we use the word "watch" in its collective sense, as representing the product of the factory. Indeed, a glance at the Kew list would soon show us that the former is not the case, as we see the name of the Prescot Watch Company amongst the premier thirty-four. Some of the machinery at this factory is of an elaborate and ingenious character, and commanded the admiration of the members of the British Association at its last meeting. This idea of bringing watchmaking machinery before the scientific public was highly commended, and is no doubt an excellent populariser of the modern development of British horology.

TURRET CLOCKS.

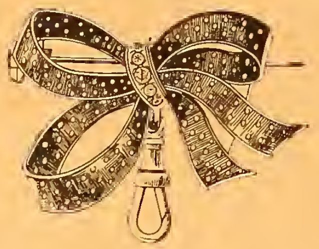
If there is one specialty in which the British horologist can show finer examples of admired skill than any other nation, it is assuredly turret clocks. To enumerate anything like all the principal giants that have been produced would be a difficult task; it is not the non-horological automata in which we excel, but in the time-measurers that accurately record the division of the hours against all adverse conditions, and continue to faithfully perform their duty for many generations, and even for centuries. Such specimens as Big Ben, the General Post Office, and Greenwich Observatory Clocks are known all over the world, and to these might be added several nearly as large as the first-named, which English firms have put up in India, Australia, America, and other countries. It is thus evident that England is the home *par excellence* of the high-class timekeeping and time-defying turret clock. The trade, however, is a limited one, and there are only about ten or a dozen factories in the kingdom. Of those which work for the trade the name of **John Smith and Sons**, Midland Clock Works, Derby, appears most frequently in our pages; as in almost every number we give details of some notable piece of work that this firm has set up in some part of the kingdom.

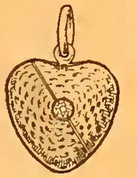
Messrs. W. F. Evans and Son, Soho Clock Factory, Handsworth, Birmingham, also make a specialty of turret clocks, and some magnificent examples they are able to turn out, as well as the chime and quarter clocks, encased for brackets, or *à la* grandfather. Some of their productions, chiming on Harrington's tubes, are about the most handsome, imposing, and impressive things of the sort ever produced. There are numerous improvements that have been made in turret clocks, even since some of the above cited were made. Materials, which are of great importance in the construction of large time-measuring machines, have also been greatly improved.

THINGS NEW AND NOTEWORTHY.

The New Enamel Jewelry.

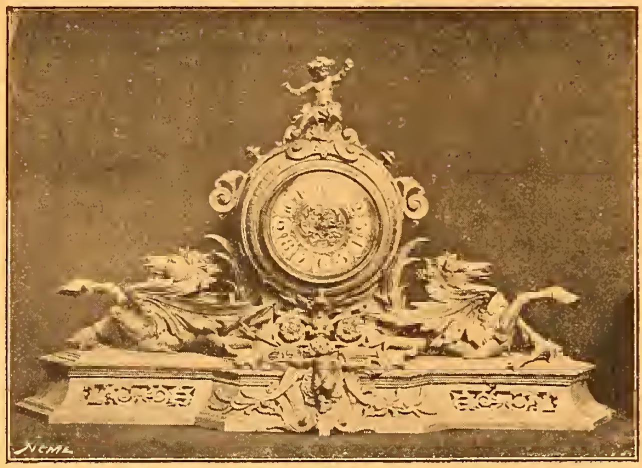
We have frequently lavished our admiration on the now fashionable enamel work. There are many things that come and go in obedience to the unjustifiable decrees of fashion, but this jewelry, however, has something more than the whim of fashion to commend it, and embraces specimens of the jewelers' art of which we may be justly proud. For the benefit of our Colonial readers we may just say that in this the decoration is transparent enamels, through which the figured back of the gold is seen, and the enamel being nicely regulated, the color passes from the color of the gold, through light to deep shades of cherry-red, dark green, or dark blue. Usually a border of gold is left, and sometimes stars or dots of the precious metal. It is also accompanied by grain-set gems, and altogether has given rise to some of the finest productions ever known. Herewith we illustrate two specimens, the productions of Messrs. Chandler and Son, 12, Newman-street, W. The first is a watch-brooch, in the new transparent and spangle enamel, and is worn in any position on the bodice from which is suspended the timester. Ordinary watches are worn to these brooches, but if the ticker be enamelled in the same style, of course the thing is more perfect. The other example is that of one of the new heart lockets. The treatment is exactly the same; the colors are blue and pink, or red and green, together with other pairs of colors, and the centre is a diamond. These lockets are having a splendid run.

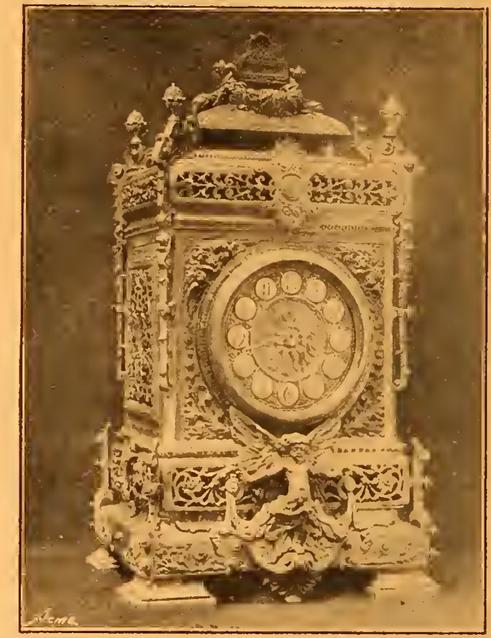


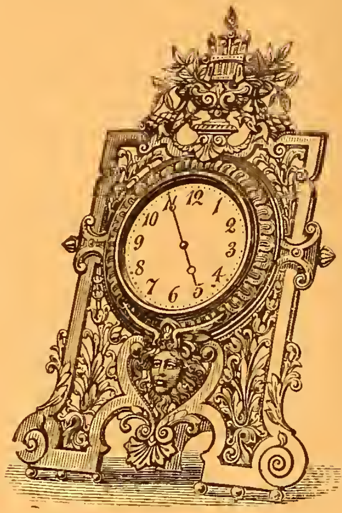


New and Beautiful Clocks.

It is one of the most difficult of our experiences to select from the intensely varied stock of Messrs. Gay, Lamaille, and Co., Charterhouse-street, the most interesting and important of novelties in clocks which almost daily make their appearance at their galleries. The claim of the magnificent and imposing hall-clocks is, no doubt, great, and the improvements in designs in these popular timesters is certainly so interesting that they ought to be detailed for the benefit of the trade. Still, we must here be content with a word or two on the solid brass articles which are now so popular. These, we are informed by the retail trade, are growing in popularity every day, and when we contemplate such examples as we herewith illustrate, the reason of their success is not hard to find. As Art productions they are all that can be expected or desired, and being made of solid metal, they are articles which are not going to be worn out in either a few years or a life time, but will be handed on probably for centuries. That no pains are spared in their production becomes evident upon a glance at those we illustrate. The designs lend themselves to any kind of room-decoration, and are equally suitable for the hall, dining-room, drawing-room, or boudoir. They are also made with side ornaments to match, and in complete *garnitures*. Another description of clocks which claim special notice is those which may be called Strut-backs. These are made in a variety of materials—mosaics, alabaster, with carved stone flowers, and solid metal. It is one of the last that we have figured, which will serve to give an idea of this fashionable form of timester.

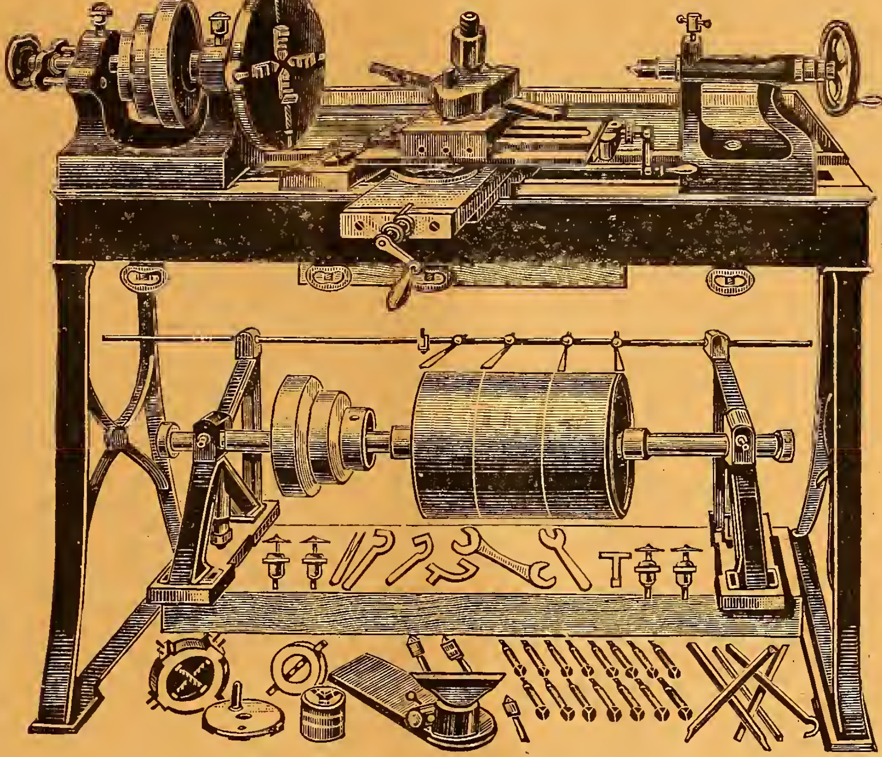




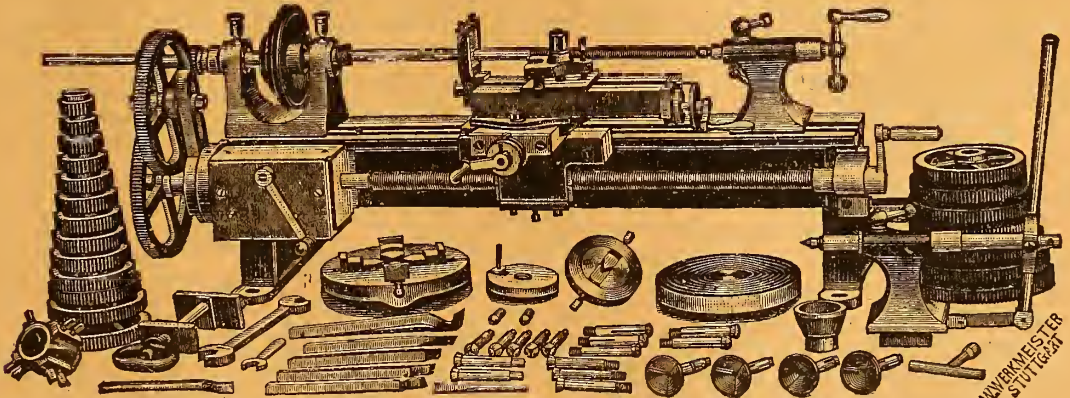


A Remarkable Lathe.

We have much pleasure in giving some details of this unique piece of mechanical skill of which mention was made in a recent issue of The Watchmaker, Jeweler, Silversmith and Optician in connection with Messrs. Grimshaw and Baxter. The lathe is constructed with V and flat bed 42 inches long; all working parts are made from the best English steel and are hardened and ground true after hardening. The headstock is constructed with hollow steel mandril with $\frac{1}{2}$-inch bore, and has conical bearings at each end, reverse to one another, by which arrangement the slightest play can be instantly adjusted; the end of the mandril runs against a hardened steel backing collar to resist thrust. The height of centres is $6\frac{3}{8}$ inch. The slide rest is of very strong construction, and has V-threaded screws of 2 m/m. pitch; the bottom slide is covered so that no chips or dust can penetrate to its dovetails. The top slide has a cover over screw and has hollow frame dovetail. The screws of both top and bottom slide are divided into 20ths by means of a divided disc on the back of the handles.



The poppet-head is of light but powerful construction, and is of curved form to allow of short turning when the slide tool is close to centre of the lathe. The following accessories are supplied with the lathe:—Face-plate chuck $8\frac{3}{4}$ in. diameter, with four independent jaws; the set of 15 American steel split chucks for wire; Whiton American drill chuck, capacity $\frac{3}{8}$ in.; chuck with eight screws, capacity 2 in.; die chuck with two moveable steel dies, hardened; sot of slide rest tools, finished carrier chuck; four centres, wrenches, keys, &c.; overhead motion, with fast, slow, and loose pulleys.

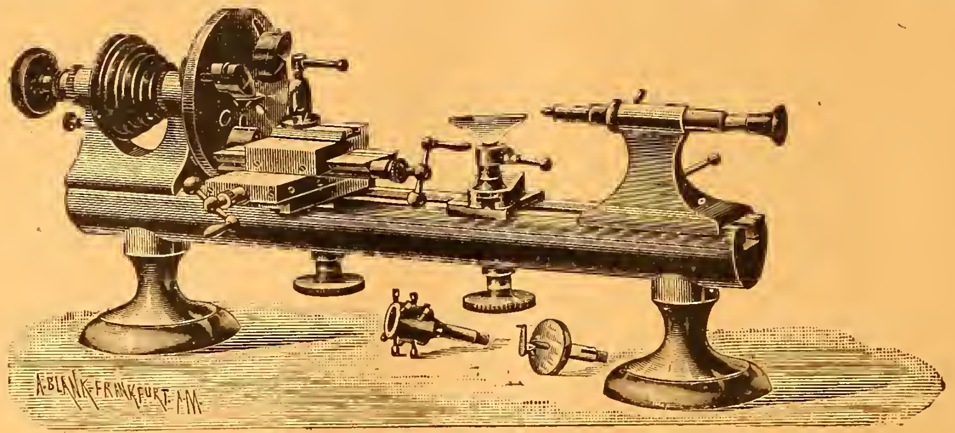


Amongst the other excellent productions of this firm reference might be made to the Anglo-American, or Imitation Webster-Whitcomb Lathe. The height of centres in this case is 2 in., length of bed 20 in., diameter of bore of headstock 5-16 in. It is built upon the lines adopted by the American lathe makers, and every detail in the manufacture of the tool is perfected before leaving the factory. The head is hollow, with vulcanite pulley, having four grooves and on the back a division plate with stop pin. It is further supplied with an almost infinity of chucks, one holding wire up to $\frac{1}{4}$ in.; step carrier 8-screw, and 4 in.

dependant jaw, slide rest, chucks, (American form) gravers, head with mandril plate and pump centre. There is also a useful milling attachment for operating from slide-rest, together with numerous other accessories.

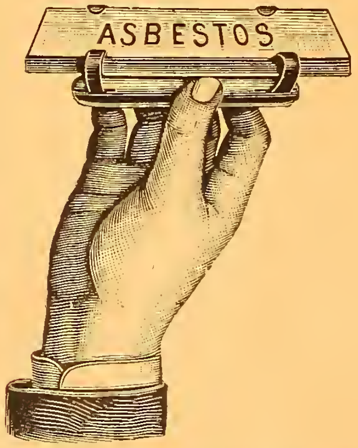
The Boley Screw-cutting Lathe.

Another high-class tool of Messrs. Grimshaw and Baxter is the Boley Screw-Cutting Lathe. In this the length of bed is 28in., height of centres $3\frac{1}{8}$in., and the length between centres $20\frac{1}{8}$in. The headstock and bearings are of the best English steel, glass-hard, and ground true, so that there is no appreciable wear. The headstock and draw-in spindle are hollow throughout. On the leading screw is a clutch arrangement, with steel bevel gearing, to change traverse of slide-rest from right to left. The pitch of the leading screw is $2\frac{1}{2}$ m/m. per revolution, and is arranged to cut metric threads; by insertion of the intermediate wheel of 127 teeth, threads to Whitworth Scale can also be cut. The lathe can be supplied with 3-groove pulley for cord, or 2-speed flat-band pulley for band.


A.BLANK FRANKFURT A.M.

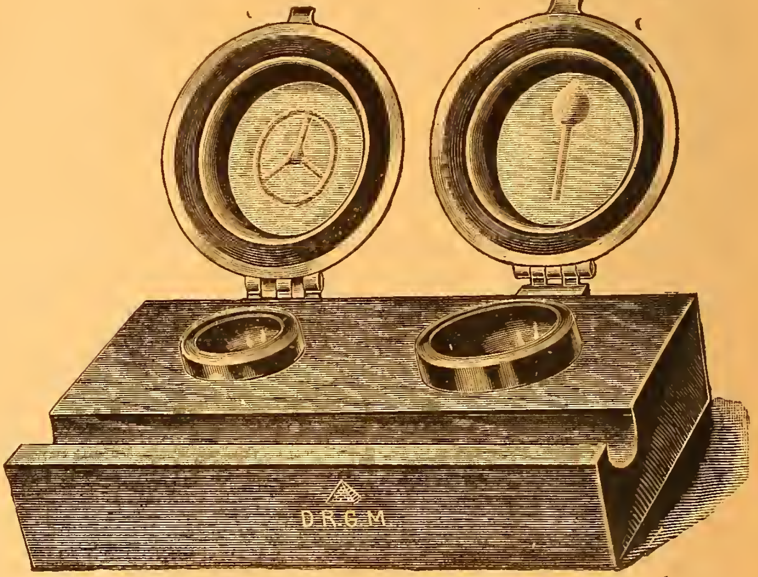
The Banishment of Charcoal.

The numerous objections that are to be raised against the use of charcoal need no repetition. Various contrivances, it is true, have been resorted to with only partial success, as there are still purposes for which the wire pad is unsuitable, especially when any absolute melting is required to be done. A well known firm of manufacturers have recently attacked the problem, and have produced a new asbestos plate to take the place of the charcoal. The illustration shows the new "Kosmo Asbestos" as held in the hand by which can be seen its method of use. It is obviously much cleaner than charcoal, and more handy, and is made of a noncombustible material which will retain heat. The price is also very moderate, so as to be within the reach of everybody, and we hear it has already been largely adopted by those who have seen it.



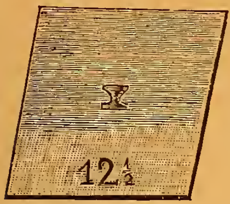
The New Oil Cups.

It has often been observed that to take the necessary care of watch and clock oils, so as to maintain them free from dust, it is necessary to cork up the lubricating fluid and put it away, and get it out and uncork it each time of using, which is practically impossible. That the preservation of the purity of the friction reducer is absolutely necessary everyone will admit, but most of the methods in use to achieve this object are either clumsy, troublesome, or defective. To meet all these conditions the above firm have also introduced a very simple contrivance "the Kosmo Oil Cups." A glance at the illustration shows them fixed in a firm stand without fear of being upset. There is a distinguishing mark for the watch and clock oil. The lid is readily opened and immediately closed, thus preventing the pollution of the anti-frictionizer. There is also a groove in front of the stand for the temporary reception of the oiler.



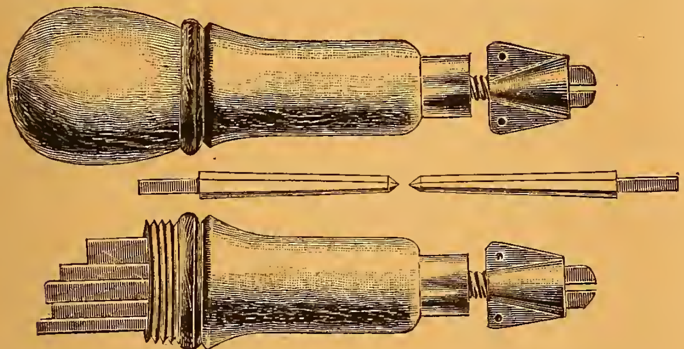
Transparent Lids.

Of the many uses to which the new transparent celluloid has been put, few will commend themselves more to the "material" dealer than the idea of transparent lids to stock boxes and drawers, so that in future when a customer calls for any given article, pinion, wheel, or what-not, he can tell at a glance if he has it in stock without trying every compartment. These form another of the "Kosmo" novelties, and the time they will save in obviating the lifting up of lids to find a particular size of any small article will be so great that we venture to predict that very shortly no material dealer or manufacturer will be without them. Similar transparent bells are also made for the use of watchmakers to put over movements. They look far better than the somewhat dust-hole appearance often presented by a bench when covered with old broken glasses of various sorts, kinds, and characters.

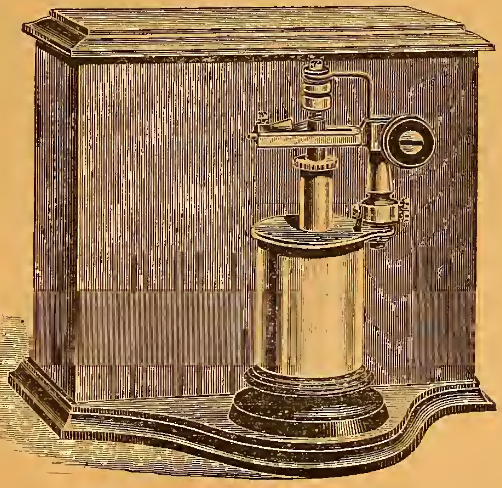


An Excellent Broach-handle.

Just one more of the productions of this firm; it is a somewhat new application of an excellent idea. There is no denying that, despite the indispensable nature of the broach, it is often ill-hafted, when the very reverse ought to be the case. The necessary quantity of these tools, from the various sizes of holes upon which one has to operate, almost makes a box full. Besides this, broaches are often necessarily very delicate, and when huddled together with other tools of a heavy and massive description, frequently get broken. All these objections are met by the above handy broach-handle. The haft of this is hollow, and forms a receptacle for the broaches not in use, which it preserves sound and clean. The whole occupies but little space, can be thrown about without fear, and forms a *multum in parvo* tool which we have no hesitation in recommending to our readers.



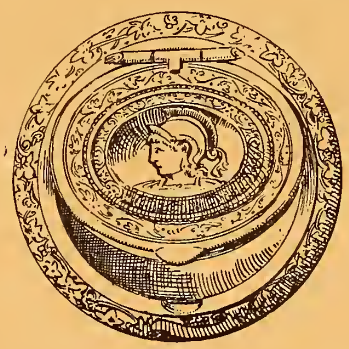
Something Quite New in Lamps.

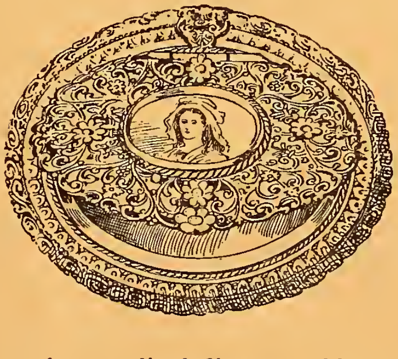


Of the various ingenious contrivances which have originated in the mind of man for the production of that gift of the gods—fire—we have no hesitation in saying that the one we are about to describe is the most simple and clever. When our old tinder-box became superseded, the new invention was regarded as "a match for old Lucifer," and, indeed, it is still known by one or the other of these names. In those days his satanic majesty was much more closely identified with material fire than he is at present, so that much of the force of the original claim is consequently lost. In the case under consideration the fire produced is the gift of the goddess Electron. The accompanying illustration shows the thing out of which it has evolved; but, as at present made, it is an artistic Greek vase-lamp, over which falls an extinguisher, preventing an escape of the spirit from the lamp. Upon simply lifting up the wick-protector, the spirit-saturated cotton mysteriously bursts into flame; turning back the extinguisher just as instantaneously puts it out. In appearance its action is a mystery worthy of a prophet of the great fire god. The secret is in the box behind, in which are a couple of electric cells; upon making and breaking contact with a brush in the extinguisher and the edge of the burner, a spark ensues which lights the spirit. The lamp can be used either as a cigar lighter or for the sick room. We employ this block not to show the beauty of the thing as now made, but to give our readers a better idea of the principle upon which it is constructed. It is one of the productions of Messrs. Wich and Co.

New Bonbonnieres.

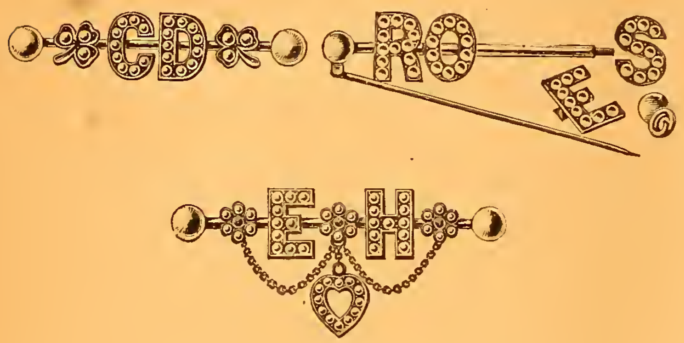
A few years ago we were lamenting the disappearance of the snuff-box, not because we approved of the objectionable habit of snuff-taking; but because these articles were of such a size as to allow the artistic skill of the age to be expended upon them. We are pleased to see that from their ashes has arisen the bonbonnière, an article with far more delicate associations, and one which can be made to appeal to the more chaste and refined tastes of the gentler sex. Herewith we illustrate two examples of these things, the production of Mr. W. H. Walter. The first is parcel-gilt with a metal medallion in the top of the lid, and the other oxydized filagree, gold, and miniature. These are only two of the many patterns produced by this firm.





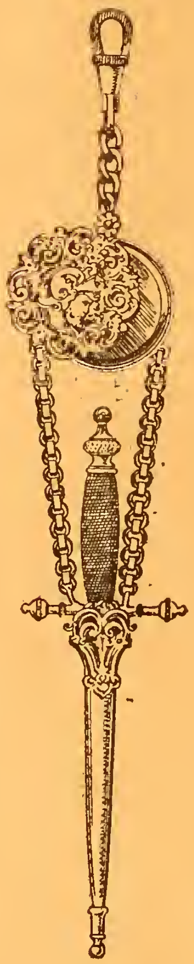
A New Principle in Brooches.

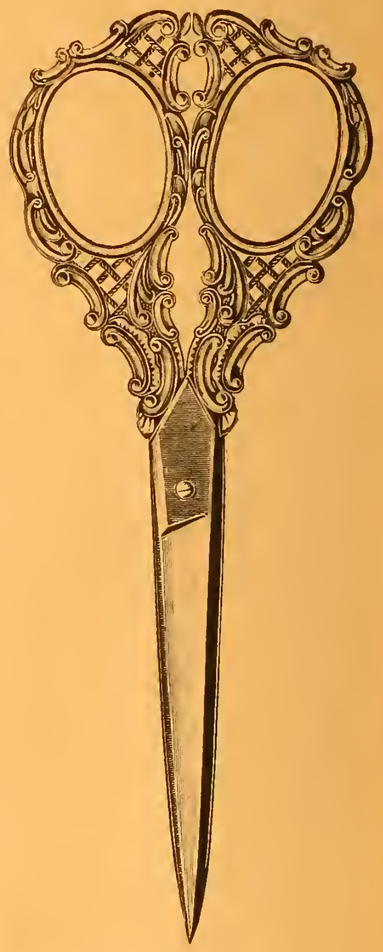
If we are sometimes tempted to deplore the paucity of *designs* in brooches, what must one say when we come to the constructive principles of these jewels, seeing that one can find to-day almost unaltered survivals of these articles that have come down to us from the dawn of the very art of metallurgy, which dates probably further back than the fashioning of the noble metal! Whether man in the palæolithic age battered nuggets of gold between two stones we cannot say; reason would suggest he did, although the nature of the evidence is naturally unfavorable for a decision on the point. Still, we will be content to regard the bronze age as the dawn of metallurgy, and we can say that our forefathers—if we are not too proud to own them—made brooches wherewith to fasten the skins of animals round their shoulders, which have come down to us to-day practically unmodified in principle. They were slabs, buttons, or escutcheons of metal fastened behind with a pin. In later periods of civilisation Art was brought to bear upon the outline, treatment, and decoration of the front, and the diversity of the metals employed; but the constructive principle with about only one exception (and this is still retained by the Scotch) has remained unchanged. It is always a set rigid design of a particular and exclusive pattern supplied with a pin, either upon a frame or otherwise. It is true sprays have been made detachable, and stars and other ornaments convertible; but with all these the absolute design of that part which constitutes the jewel has remained unchanged. In the article about to be described this state of things is so entirely altered that a jeweler with a few brooches can have a new stock of patterns new every morning. If he finds a pattern does not sell he can easily alter it to something very different. He can have a tray of geometrical designs one day, and the next the magic wand may have been passed over them, after they were taken from the window at night, and, lo! they are all of floral design. Yet, again, the wand is passed over, and they are bridesmaids' brooches, with the initials of any happy couple that decide upon entering the blissful state; or, if necessary, name-brooches. Unfortunately, we are not good at figures, but we know enough to be able to say that with only one tray of these brooches—and that a not very large one—we could make more patterns than at present exist in the whole kingdom. And now for the secret, which is just as simple as admirable. A glance at the illustration shows the new brooch to consist of a solid triangular bar with terminals; one of the latter simply unscrews and the elements of design in the brooch slide off, and others are put on and held in position by the triangularity of the bar and fit of the collar, and a spacing-bar carried by each element. These latter may be swallows, letters, scrolls, geometrical designs, or gems. It would be impossible to detail the number of designs one could make from these materials, but obviously it is the only system of perfect name brooches yet brought out, as at any moment's notice a name could be built up, or any initials, to which could be added any further ornament which would bring up the value of the brooch several hundred per cent., and so meet the purse of any customer. These ingenious interchangeable brooches are the protected production of MESSRS. SIEGELE, BENNETT AND CO., 11, Charterhouse-street, E.C.



New Chatelaine Appendages.

CHATELAINES are still to the front, and appendages, if possible, increase with a great number of wearers. Amongst these articles we might specially notice some of the novelties of Mr. W. H. WALTER, Newgate-street. The illustration shows a very taking example of these. The chain falls from a receiver of a photo, covered by a beautifully wrought medallion, and apparently suspends a sword. This, however, is not the military weapon at all, but, in Shakespearian language, may be something mightier, viz., a pen. Usually it is a pencil or tooth-pick, or a pair of scissors. Altogether it is an artistic and taking little production.



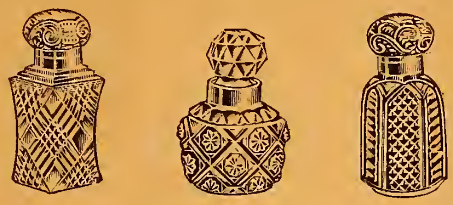


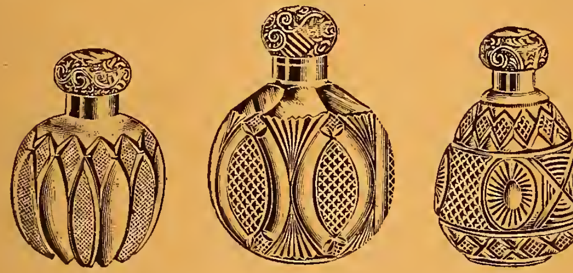
Beautiful Silver Scissors.

As a further specimen of this firm's productions, we give an illustration of a pair of their silver mounted scissors. In this case the elaborate work of the instruments themselves is closely contested by the sheath. These are the sort of things that we formerly looked upon as high Art treasures, and exhibited them at Art loan collections, or illustrated them in Art journals: now they are regular articles of stock at quite a moderate price.

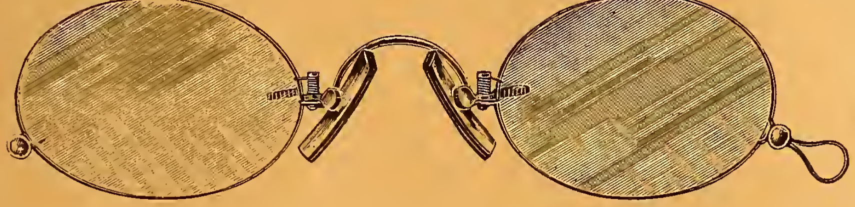
New Silver Mounted Bottles.

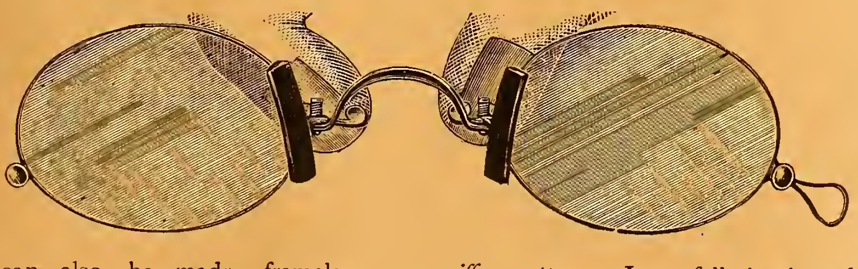
Time was when one could count upon the fingers of one hand all the patterns likely to be found in cut-glass bottles. This, of course, left much to the mounter. When, however, the demand for these goods set in some years ago, large firms turned their attention to them, and the result is that to-day we have an almost endless variety. Out of such a crystal silver-crested forest as may be seen at Messrs. Chapman Son and Co's., 2, Charterhouse-buildings, we have selected a half-dozen examples which may be taken as fair samples of the hundreds of others that can be found there, and which the firm sell separately, as well as in cased sets.





The Pince-Nez of the Future.

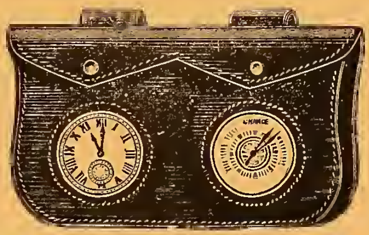




The above may appear a large claim, but we believe that if we can make our readers realise the extreme simplicity, safety, lightness, strength, and comfort in the wearing of the article we are about to describe, they will consider it fully entitled to all that we have claimed for it. The first illustration shows the vision-assister mounted in a gold frame, just ready to be placed upon the nose. It can also be made frameless or *griffe* pattern. It will be seen that the one illustrated in appearance differs but little from some of the best *plaquets* patterns. At the angle of the bridge on either side will be noticed a lever (lying out of the line of vision), and by placing the thumb and finger outside these, and giving them a nip, the plaquets fly open far enough to receive a bridge wider than that of the Iron Duke, and can then, *by the same grasp*, be lifted upon the nose. Upon the loosing of the grasp of the digets, as shown in the next figure, the plaquets gently close, and thus clasp the nose; although so lightly as to be scarcely perceptable. There will, henceforth, be no occasion to use two hands with the pince-nez, nor to be debarred from its use when an attack of gout or anything else disables one hand: no weak spring in disturbed equilibrum where a supporting bridge should be; but with all the scientific advantages of both pince-nez and rigid bridge, and destitute of the great disadvantages of both, we shall be able to employ with comfort and ease Messrs. Raphael's and Co's patent pince-nez of the future.

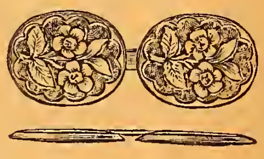
A New Dashboard Combination.

When one sees how few carriages or dog-carts at the present time are without a dashboard timekeeper, and how indispensible these now appear in a modern vehicular equipage, one is tempted to wonder how we did without them so long in any form at all. For a long time the dashboard accessory was the simple Goliath watch, which still commands a great sale. That Messrs. Garstin and Co., of Queen's-square, E.C., were not contented with this state of things is evident from the number of novelties in this direction they have successfully brought out. First, the plain enamel cow-hide was replaced by a fancy shape, and a fancy leather. Then we find an arrangement by which the Goliath can be made to do duty in any room in the house, as well as on the dashboard, or in the carriage. Next we find the ordinary watch put to the same use, and leather cases made for this purpose. Then we get another arrangement which specially commends itself to the bedroom as well as the carriage, and a thermometer is added. Lastly, we have the double pouch as shown herewith, in which the watch is accompanied by a barometer, which makes not only a very ornamental, but a very useful article.



The "Threadeasi" Link.

Messrs. H. J. Cooper also call our attention to a link of which they are selling large quantities, the illustration of which will explain itself. It will be seen that a longitudinal groove admits the link to fall closely and almost rigidly into the back of the front so that the cuff-fastener can be passed very easily through the button-hole owing to its extreme thinness. By the illustration is seen how very thin this really is, and a back view shows the action.



Various Improvements in Watches.

There is usually such an immense sameness in the construction of the principal kinds of watches, and the so-called improvements are really so small, or so much better understood and appreciated by their introducers than the general trade, that it is really refreshing to get from one firm several contrivances which obviously better qualify and enable our staple articles to compete more successfully in the struggle for existence. The first of these improvements to which we would call attention is a new balance-spring stud, an invention and patent of Messrs. Guye, Farringdon-road, and employed in their new full-plate timester. In this the balance-spring stud is fixed to the cock instead of on the plate, as in ordinary full-plates. The cock and balance can therefore be lifted off without disturbing the spring, just as easily as in a three-quarter plate watch. Being fitted round a boss concentric with balance, the spring cannot be upset so far as *time* is concerned, even if the stud be unscrewed and taken off the cock, for in being replaced it must necessarily bring back the end of the spring to the original distance from the centre. At most it can only put the watch out of beat, which is easily corrected, but the *rate* of the timester is never disturbed. The stud ordinarily employed in ¾-plate watches turns about a screw as a centre, which is outside the index, and any shifting of the spring moves it perpendicularly to circumference, thus disturbing the equilibrium of the spring, and concomittantly disturbing and upsetting the rate. It is unnecessary to add another word on behalf of the advantages of this patent invention, but to enable our readers to more easily see the construction, we have added the above illustrations ; Fig 1 is a plan and elevation of the stud alone, and in Fig. 2 we give a plan of the stud fixed to the cock, around a boss underneath the jewel setting, and concentric with balance; Fig. 3 shows a section through a, b.

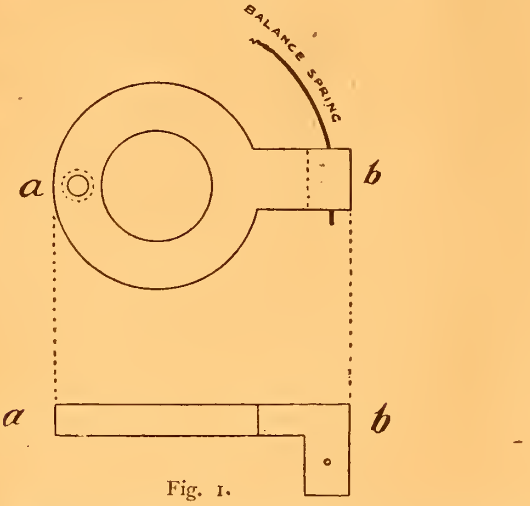


Fig. 1.

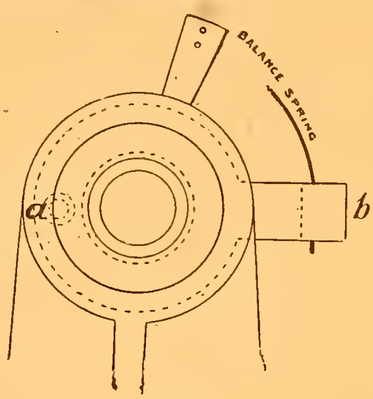


Fig. 2.

The next improvement in full-plates to which we draw attention also originates from the fertile brains at the Farringdon-road factory, and as full-plates are still greatly in demand in the Colonies, we are sure the ingenious, strong, and simple action of this patent as well as the foregoing will be gladly received, not only at home but abroad. In this case the improvement consists of a new fastening for the cap, which entirely does away with the clumsy spring and studs, and provides a much firmer fastening, which can be realized at a glance in the annexed figures. In fig 4 is shown the locking disc, which is easily rotated backwards and forwards, by means of screws, which upon rotation shoots into a slot or groove in the balance-cock, as shown in fig. 5. It is thus held by a large and firm grip which is almost central, thus securing the same amount of strength all round the edges. Speaking of these edges reminds us of the beautiful way in which these caps fit. This forms another illustration of the superiority of some kind of machine work over hand, as the joint all round is so close-fitting that it is only visible upon absolutely close inspection. Another thing about these caps is that they are all interchangeable, one cap fits equally as well as another. Should such a thing happen—as it often does—for a cap to get lost or injured, all that would be necessary is to send to the factory for another. It would be found to fit, and that with mathematical precision !

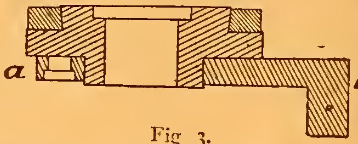


Fig 3.

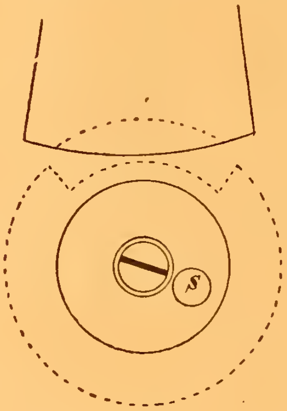


Fig. 4.

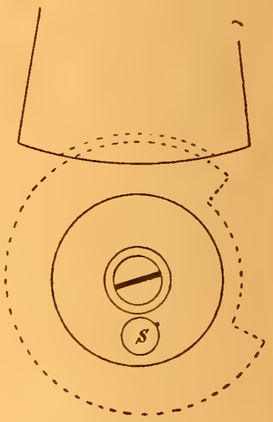
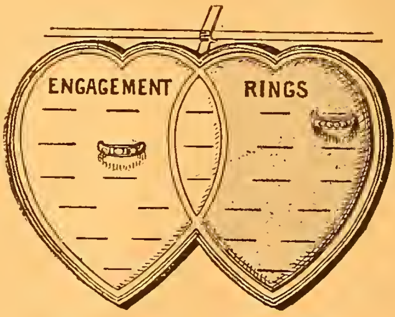


Fig. 5.

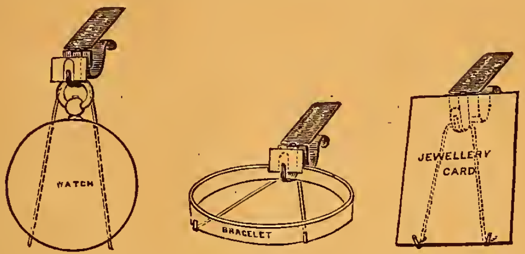
Novelties in Fittings and Sundries.

Although it would be much more advantageous to our readers to send to Messrs. Potter and Son, Aldersgate-street, E.C., for one of their encyclopædic catalogues of remedies for all the wants the jeweler is heir to, incidental to keeping and selling of stock, we are tempted to call attention to one or two specialties. The first illustration is a double-heart ring stand. In this case one heart is in blue



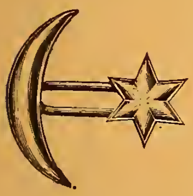
or red, and the other in white, and advantage can thus be taken of suiting the background to the kind of gems displayed. It can be fitted upon the edge of the shelf, or made to stand upon a foot.

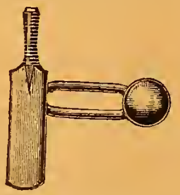
The next illustration shows one of perhaps the handiest little fittings of its kind ever brought out. To describe the number of purposes to which this can be put, to hold bracelets, watches, rings, &c., in various positions, would require more space than can be here given.



Novelties in Links.

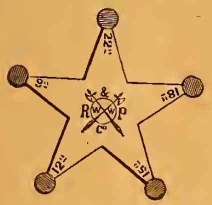
One of the largest manufacturers of links in the Trade once observed to us that there was no possible means of varying the pattern of a link, it was just cushion and oval, fluted, plain and engraved. Unfortunately this idea for a long time appeared to be held as orthodox. But the old lines have been broken through again and again; in proof of which we herewith illustrate two of the examples of Messrs. Nathan Bros., Vyse-street, Birmingham. The first is a star and crescent, which form a very happy combination and an effective cuff-link. The other is a cricket bat and ball equally well associated, and in this nation of cricketers it ought to receive a large patronage.





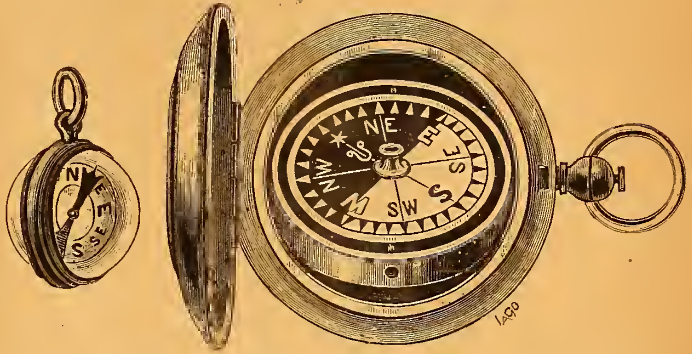
Pringle's Gold-Testing Star.

We have much pleasure in calling attention to this invaluable little accessory of the jeweler, or any one else who has to do with the testing of the quality of gold. Usually in the use of the touch-stone, the result obtained, whether from the streak or the resultant brightness after the application of the acid, is only referred to a memory-retained scale; which from the very nature of the case must naturally be defective, unreliable, and inexact. "Oh, it stands well," is usually sufficient, though as unscientific and misleading as can well be. Sometimes a dash is made into the till or pocket for a sovereign for comparison, but this is of little value in enabling one to distinguish between, say, 15 and 18-carat gold. What is wanted is a gauge or measure whereby to compare results on the old Greek maxim, "Things which are equal to one another," etc. This gauge is furnished by the above five-pointed star brought out by Messrs. Pringle and Co., Wilderness Works, Clerkenwell-road, E.C. The body of the star is of silver and upon the end of the various limbs are balls of 9, 12, 15, 18, and 22-carat respectively. Where a streak of the article under examination has been made, another or more can be made by the star, and the usual application of nitric acid, and its action upon the alloy present, and the corresponding brightness of the streak left, immediately assists and enables one to distinguish between the various qualities of the precious metal.

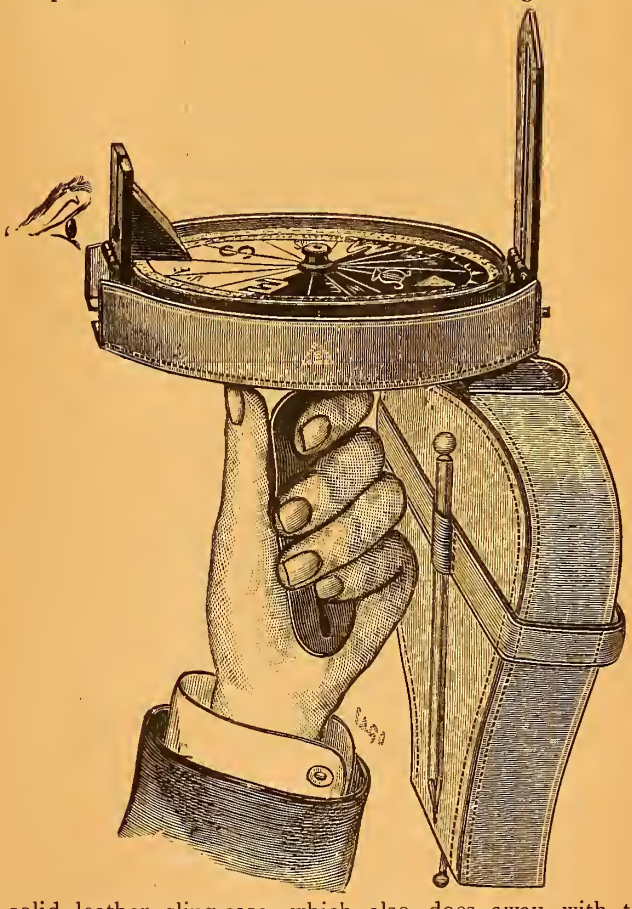


Improvements in Compasses.

Messrs. Barker and Son, of 12, Clerkenwell-road, the well-known compass and barometer makers, have recently made a novelty in charm-compasses in the form of a crystal ball with the needle pivoted inside, which makes it more effective in appearance and ought to command a large sale. Another still more ingenious improvement of the same firm consists of a hunting-case collapsing gimballed compass, which is no thicker than an ordinary hunter watch-case when closed. The instrument being fitted up on gimbals is thereby rendered extremely useful for boating, yachting, or horse-riding, on account of the great steadiness of the card. It is a thing which has long been wanted, and a glance at the illustration will show how simple and useful an article it is.

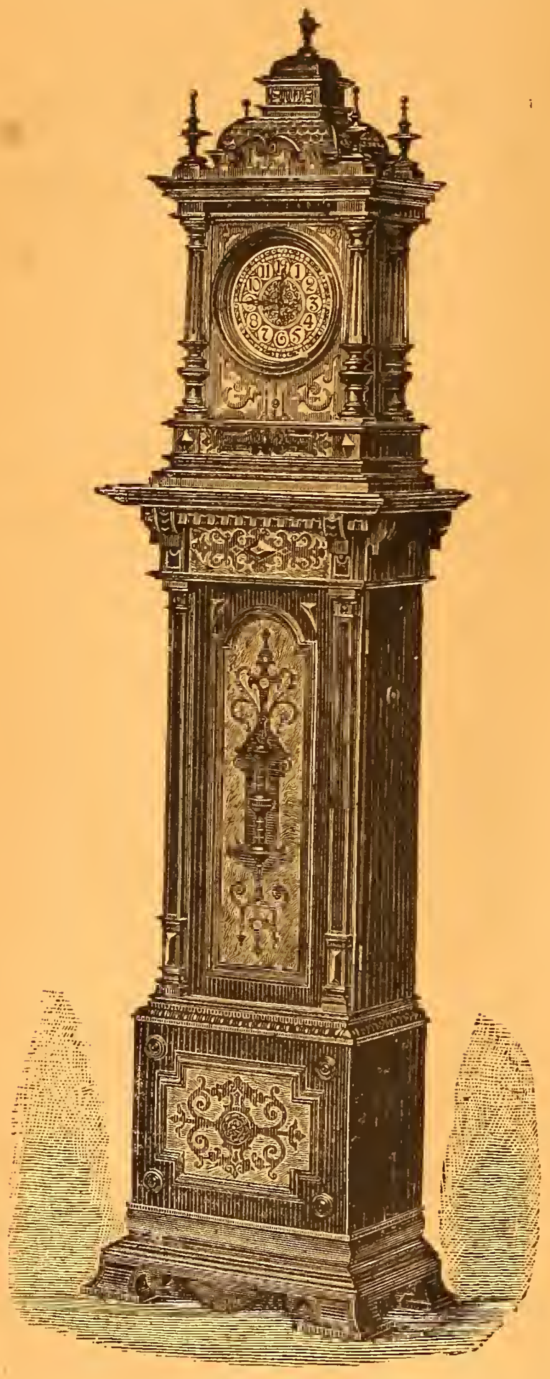


Another improvement of this firm lies in an article of a more complex nature, viz., the indispensable prismatic compass. This consists in the instrument being *fixed* in a solid leather sling-case, which also does away with the encumbrance of the metal cover, and by a strap at the back it can be held in any position quite steadily. It further contain several other improvements, some of which can be seen at a glance at the illustration. The firm has also recently been bringing out some new aneroids.



A New Principle in Musical Boxes.

NEVER speak ill of a good servant is a maxim by which we wish to abide. The ordinary cylinder with its somewhat delicate little pins, and the way the latter operate upon the tongues of the automatic musical boxes, have done such good service, and will doubtless continue to do so for generations to come, that we hardly like to advocate other claims over their head. Still we must be faithful to our convictions or remain silent. In the new principle known as the "SYMPHONION," the cylinder is replaced by a metal disc, which can be made to work in any plane. The metal pins are replaced by a strutted lever and these do not act upon the tongue direct, but upon a toothed wheel which is firmly fixed in position. It is the specially constructed teeth of this wheel which lift the tongues and let them fall at such an angle and velocity that the volume of sound which results is something surprising. These discs are practically thrown on, and a lever turned to hold them in position, from which they can be removed at any instant after the first note or two has been struck, and instead of that care which is required in the handling of the cylinder these discs are thrown about with all the impunity they would be, if they were—well—bricks, and are sent over here with no more clothing than adorned our first parents in Eden.

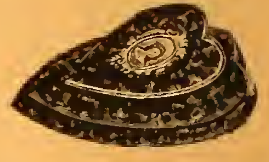


The Symphonion Clock.

THE illustration shows the application of the above action to a 14-day clock striking on gong. As the clock strikes each hour it lifts a lever and sets the musical box into action. The symphonion has 100 steel tongues with sublime harmony and piccolo, with interchangeable metal discs. The tunes can be rapidly changed by unfastening a spring, removing the disc, as previously explained, and placing another in its place. The cost of new discs, which are made of medium steel, is very trifling. One can have at a small outlay a selection of hundreds of tunes. By a simple lever the musical work can be set at "silent" for the night or during absence from home, or it can be made to play continuously, or else only once an hour. The case is made of handsome solid walnut, and stands 8ft. high. The clock can be detached from the top and placed separately from the musical box, and some bronze put on top of the latter. Both the above can be had of the London Agents, MESSRS. KLEIN AND CO.

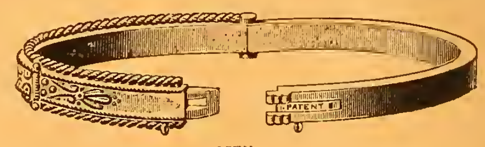
The New Letter Clip.

LETTERS clips are articles that are coming very much into popular favor just now. They are made in a variety of patterns, one of which made in the new Tortoisette we here illustrate. In this heartshape example nearly the whole of the article is made from the horny material, the mounts being gilt, and the medallion ivory miniature. In others the the tortoisette forms the base only, the clip being composed of —well, we won't say solid chased and carved gold figures, but that kind of work which to many eyes is undistinguishable from it—richly gilt. The chief feature of this material is that it lends itself to adaptive brains like those of Messrs. KING AND SONS to form an infinity of articles, as the display which they are making evinces.



New Bracelet Fastening.

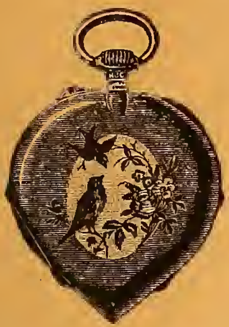
MANY have been the improvements made, or attempted, in connection with the modes of fastening bracelets. Still, every now and then a new feature is introduced—not an improvement, it is true; in fact, sometimes quite the reverse. The new bracelet-fastener, which has just been patented by HENRY GRIFFITH AND SONS, Warstone-lane, Birmingham, will, however, be recognised by all as belonging to the minority-improvement division. It is undoubtedly, among other things, the strongest and simplest in action of anything that we can call to mind, as the tongue, instead of being a sixteenth or twelfth of an inch in width, is much wider, and into this is cut a mortice, into which a bolt-clip fits. There is, therefore, a division of labour in the arrangement, which cannot fail to ensure strength and ease, and doubtless the invention will become very popular.

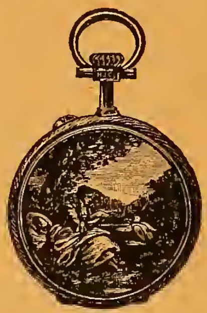


OPEN.

The Pendant Watches.

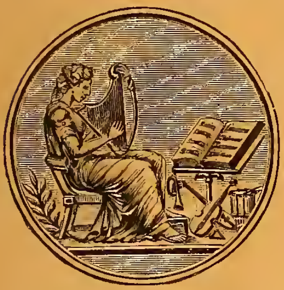
The fashion still continues to suspend the watch from a small brooch from the ladies' bodices. This, naturally, has called into existence a large number of novelties and artistic productions in this kind of thing. With the revival, or, one might almost say, *rage*, for enamel, we find the introduction of some charming little enamelled watches, of all sorts, novel or curious. Herewith we illustrate two of these; they are from the extensive stock of H. J. Cooper and Co., Ltd,. Thavies-inn. The first is of fanciful heart-shaped outline, with enamelled birds and flowers; and the other a Louis XV., with a small enamel *à la Watteau.* We might remark that the same firm has a number of this kind of thing in a variety of designs.





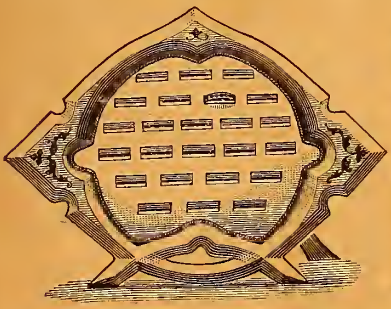
Artistic Medals.

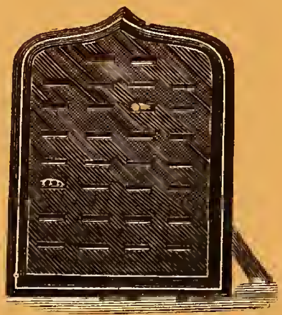
Few things, if any, have shown a greater increase during the last few years than medals, but there are medals *and* medals, some are artistic objects, cherished by the numismatist and Art student, while others would shock the feelings of both of these classes of observers. That there is no necessity for so many to belong to the latter class, is evinced by a specimen of the work of Mr. Fenwick, of Birmingham, we here illustrate. Unfortunately the block does scanty justice to the die from which the medal was struck, which is supposed to be here represented. It is only one of the patterns kept in stock by Mr. Fenwick, but its artistic claims are sufficient to merit a special notice.



Celluloid Ring Stands.

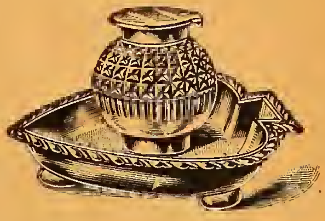
Amongst the various applications of this remarkable material, few are more effective than the case of ring stands, and certainly for few purposes is it so superbly good. Here we do entirely away with the expensive easily-soiling silk fabric, and its place is occupied by a washable material, which from its neutral hue, surface structure, and lustre is eminently suitable for contrast with gems of all colors. In the cases illustrated, the first is apparently ivory surrounded by a carved frame. In the next the frame is a variety in another direction. They are the productions of Messrs. Borgzinner Bros., Long-lane.

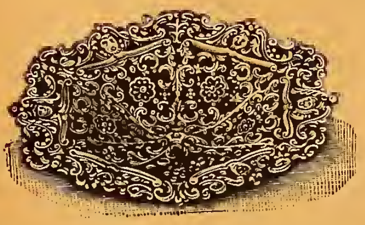




Artistic Silverware.

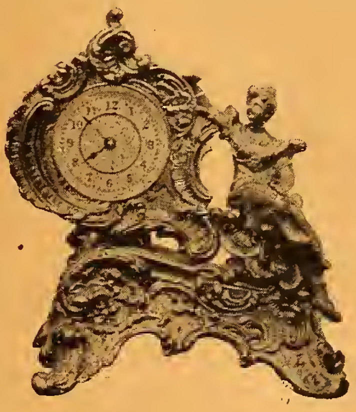
Probably never in the history of the silversmiths' Art has there been so large a number of small artistic silver goods before the world as to-day, and the selection of these must tax alike the retailer in choosing stock, and the public in deciding upon their purchases. It has been said that competition is the life and soul of trade. If this were the case we should try our hands at a syllogism, and might arrive at an *ergo*, that business is very lively. Be that as it may, the result of the present conditions is a host of beautiful little articles in silver and glass, many of which are deserving of special description. One we have selected for this purpose is a richly engraved bon-bon dish, an article scarcely known in this country a few years ago, but which is now made in numerous patterns. The other is an inkstand, one of a set of hearts, diamonds, spades, and clubs. These elements of cards have been much employed of late for these and similar purposes. The above are the productions of Messrs. Stokes and Ireland, Great Hampden-street, Birmingham.

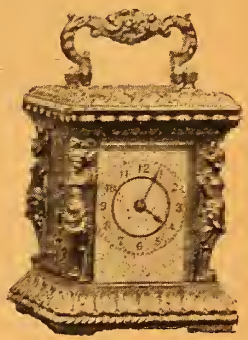




Novelties in Small Fancy Clocks.

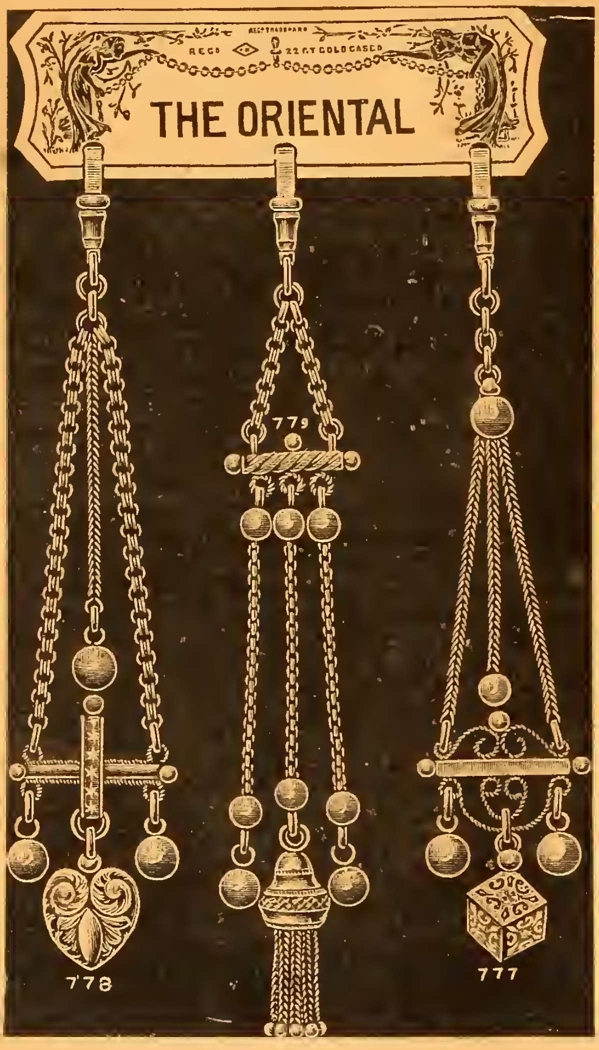
The Ansonia Clock Company, whose sole European office is 23, Fore-street, London, are continually bringing out novelties in clocks; and of the cheap artistic little things they have recently brought out we have selected about a dozen for description. But, unfortunately, we find at the last moment we have not room for more than two, which raises another difficulty of choice, as they are all equally meritorious. However, we will take the first two. The first illustration represents a miniature one-day timepiece, 5in. high, with a fancy dial 2in. in diameter. It is finished in rich gold and silver, and is known as the "Gladys." Another of these charming little novelties is a miniature carriage, 4½in. high, and correctly named "The Gem." The illustration will show the kind of art-work which has been introduced into these beautiful little articles, and serve as examples of this firm's productions.





Novelties in Ladies' Chains.

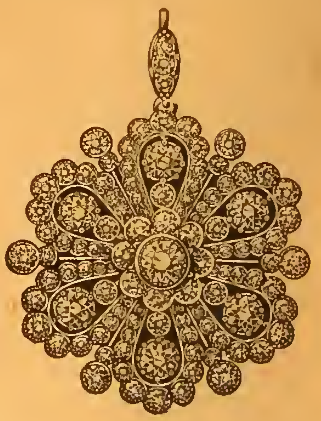
AMONGST the cheap novelties in ladies' chains that have appeared, there has been nothing in any way to approach these we herewith illustrate. In calling attention to these, however, we must admit it is with mixed feelings; for one would like to say from their artistic design and excellent finish that they are made exclusively of 18-carat gold and platinum; instead of which they are made to appeal to those whose aspirations are as high and whose tastes are as good, as those with deeper pockets, but who only feel justified in indulging in plated articles. They are the productions of Mr. N. C. READING of "albo-silver" fame, Warstone-lane, Birmingham, and known as "the Oriental."



DEATH OF MR. MAURICE BAUM.—The death took place, on May 29th, at his residence, Sheldon-road, Nether Edge, of Mr. Maurice Baum, electro-plate and cutlery manufacturer, Albert Works, Norfolk-street, Sheffield. Mr. Baum, who had been ill for a long time, was forty-six years of age, and leaves a widow and eight children. He commenced business upwards of twenty years ago, and by energy and perseverance built up a good connection, his trade during the past few years having so much increased that only recently he carried out extensive structural alterations at the works in Norfolk-street. Mr. Baum, who was greatly respected by all with whom he did business, was a member of the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce.

Fine Grain-set Diamond Work.

FOR some time past there has been a revival of that delicate and artistic style of diamond-setting known as grain-set. Upon its first revival it was confidently asserted that the very finest of this work could only be found in the West End of London, where it was associated with the highest class designs. Recently, in looking over the charming diamond stock of MESSRS. H. GRIFFITH AND SONS, of Warstone-lane, Birmingham, we were struck by some of the finest examples of this work we remember seeing for design, execution, and finish; and, accordingly, we asked to be allowed to reproduce the first piece to hand, which we do herewith. Not that this is a special example of the firm's work, but in order that our readers may form a correct idea of the quality of work which can be turned out in Jewelopolis. We have no hesitation in saying that this is fully equal to the very best production of any West End house, and a credit to the art of the jeweler.



FOR some reason or other the old firm of MESSRS. PAILLARD AND CO. have moved from the jewelers' colony, Holborn Viaduct, to Berner's-street, Oxford-street, W., and are now having fitted up some spacious galleries for the better display of musical-boxes, and musical instruments of every description. This move is probably with the object of getting more extensive galleries, and being nearer the West-end trade. When the new premises are finished we shall be pleased to give a more detailed description of them. We may, however, anticipate our notice by remarking that the firm have in hand numerous improvements in musical-boxes, which include more extended main-springs and improvements in cylinder construction.

Continuing down Oxford-street we soon arrive at No. 81, where we turn into the galleries of MESSRS. PETERS AND CO., or rather of their London agents, Klein and Co. Here may be seen such a display of musical-boxes as one may not see elsewhere, more especially as they are on an entirely new principle, which is strength and simplicity itself. Elsewhere we give a description of the system upon which the greater part of their boxes are constructed, called the "Symphonion."

It would probably be considered a Trade injustice to give a review of so many firms connected with the Trade without breaking from our geographical arrangement; but we are the victim of space. We should like to give an account of some of the many ingenious contrivances in tools, &c., which have been brought out by MESSRS A. G. PINFOLD, Metronome Works, Cleckheaton, but must content ourselves by simply referring our new readers to the advertisement of this firm, which appears in another page.

AMERICAN WORLD'S FAIR MEDALS.—Capt. Porter, of the United States Secret Service, has been ordered to make an investigation and seize all the cuts and other imitations of the World's Fair diplomas and medals of award which are being used by business houses as advertisements.

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